

Cornell Motes

Effective Topic Development

Today's Standard

8.W.2b - Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.

Cues	Notes
What is topic development?	Topic development involves selecting and organizing information that supports the main idea.
How to choose relevant facts?	
Why use concrete details?	Choose facts that are directly related to the topic and help to explain or support it.
How to integrate quotations?	Concrete details make writing more vivid and help to clarify points.
What are common misconceptions?	Quotations should be used to support your ideas, not replace them. Integrate them smoothly into your writing.
	Misconceptions include thinking that any fact will do and overusing quotations.

Summary

Effective topic development involves using relevant facts, concrete details, and quotations to support the main idea. Avoid common pitfalls like listing random facts or overusing quotations.