Directing Words for English Language Arts 30–1

Directing words, alone or in combination, qualify:
- a specified aspect of the content, context, cultural milieu, text creator or audience
- and/or the use of a literary or rhetorical device or technique.

When directing words appear in **bold** they alert students to the need to discriminate between alternatives that all have an element of truth.

An aspect of	Anticipates	Audience response	
Basis	Belief	Best,	
Best emphasizes,	Best conveys,	best describes,	Best illustrates
Contrasting	Convey(s)	Demonstrates	
Depiction	Diction	Direction, stage direction	
Dominant	Dramatic Function	Echoed	
Effectively captured	Emphasis	Encapsulates	
Evoked	Except	Exemplified	
Expressed	Failure	Foreshadow	
Illustrate	Impact	Imply	
In context	Intends		
Most clearly,	Most clearly evident in		
Most clearly establishes		Main	
Most concretely	Mostly conveys, implies, reflects		
Most consistently	Most directly	Most explicitly	Most likely
Most significantly	Most strongly,	Most emphatically	Most effectively
Not	Parallels	Portrait, portrayed	
Potential	Presentation	Primarily,	
The primary purpose/effect			
Purpose	Reflects	Reinforce	
Represents	Reveals	Share	
Shift	Significant	Succeeds	
Suggest(s)	Summarizes	Supporting evidence for	
The textual element	The effect of/created by/Use of		