

Recharge Your Brain Answer Key

1. Strong - Provides expert-based evidence directly supporting the claim about sleep improving performance.
2. Weak - Vague and opinion-based; doesn't include data or specific support.
3. Strong - Gives a clear scientific fact about what the brain does during deep sleep.
4. Weak - Based on general feelings ("most people say") rather than measurable evidence.
5. Strong - Specifically connects a behavior (late-night phone use) to an effect (feeling tired and distracted).
6. Weak - Offers no explanation or factual support; purely a personal statement.

Explanation: Strong evidence statements are **specific, factual, and directly linked** to the main idea of the passage. Weak evidence relies on **generalizations or opinions** that don't clearly prove anything.

Teacher Notes / Teacher's Guide

Objective: Students will learn to distinguish between **strong and weak textual evidence** by evaluating clarity, specificity, and relevance.

Teaching Tips:

- Begin with a class brainstorm on what makes evidence "strong." Have students list characteristics such as "specific," "fact-based," "supported by research," and "directly related to the claim."
- Encourage students to justify each choice with a short reason (e.g., "This is strong because it gives a measurable detail about memory.").

Extension Activities:

- Challenge students to rewrite one weak statement into a strong one using factual details or statistics.
- In pairs, students can find a news article or informational text online and practice labeling pieces of evidence.