

Cognitive Reading Strategies

STRATEGY	WHAT STRATEGIC READERS ARE THINKING	SENTENCE STARTERS FOR RESPONSE
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Making Connections</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Text to Text</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Text to Self</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Text to World</i></p> <p>Strategic readers connect what they know with what they are reading.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does this remind me of something? ▪ Has something like this ever happened to me? ▪ Do I know someone like this character? Am I like this character? ▪ Have I ever felt this way? ▪ What do I already know that will help me understand this text? ▪ Does this information confirm or conflict with other things I've read? ▪ What do I know about the author or genre (i.e. poetry, short story, drama, essay, etc.) that influenced my reading? ▪ Did the text make me think of real events in the news or in history books? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This reminds me of . . . ▪ I connected to this when . . . ▪ ____ made me remember a time when . . . ▪ This relates to my life because . . . ▪ ____ makes me think about . . . ▪ This illustration makes me think about . . . ▪ This makes me think about . . . ▪ This part makes me remember . . . ▪ I really had a strong connection to this part because . . . ▪ This is like . . . ▪ This is familiar to me because . . . ▪ This is similar to . . .
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Making Predictions</i></p> <p>Strategic readers think about what's going to happen and make predictions based on what they know and what they have read.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What text and/or picture clues can help me here? ▪ What background knowledge do I have that will help me with this text? ▪ What will I learn? ▪ Were my predictions correct? ▪ How did making the prediction help me with this reading? ▪ What will happen next? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I think this will be about ____ because . . . ▪ I think ____ is going to happen next. ▪ I predict that . . . ▪ ____ make me think that ____ will happen. ▪ I thought ____ was going to happen, but ____ happened instead. ▪ I'm guessing this will be about ____. ▪ Since ____ happened, I think ____ will happen. ▪ My predictions were right/wrong because . . .
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Asking Questions</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Think & Thin</i></p> <p>Strategic readers ask themselves questions before, during, and after reading to better understand the author and the meaning of the text.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the author saying? ▪ What am I wondering? ▪ What questions do I have? ▪ What would I like to ask the author? ▪ What questions might a teacher ask? ▪ Why is this happening? ▪ Why did this character ____? ▪ Is this important? ▪ How does this information connect with what I have already read? ▪ How could this be explained to someone else? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I wonder . . . ▪ I would like to ask the author . . . ▪ Who? ▪ What? ▪ When? ▪ Where? ▪ Why? ▪ How? ▪ This makes me wonder about . . .
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Visualizing</i></p> <p>Strategic readers picture what is happening as they read.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What pictures or scenes came into my mind? ▪ What do I hear, taste, smell or feel? ▪ What do the characters, setting, and events of the story look like in my mind? ▪ Can I picture this new information? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I could really picture . . . ▪ The description of ____ helped me visualize . . . ▪ I created a mental image of . . . ▪ In my mind I could really see . . . ▪ When it said ____, I could imagine . . . ▪ If this were a movie . . .

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<p><i>Monitoring and Clarifying</i></p> <p>Strategic readers stop to think about their reading and know what to do when they don't understand.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is the text making sense? ▪ Wait, what's going on here? ▪ What have I learned? ▪ Should I slow down? Speed up? ▪ Do I need to reread? ▪ How do I say this word? ▪ What does this word mean? ▪ What text clues help me fill in missing information? ▪ I know I'm on track because ____. ▪ To understand better, I need to know more about ____. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I had to slow down when . . . ▪ I wonder what ____ means. ▪ I need to know more about . . . ▪ This last part is about . . . ▪ I was confused by . . . ▪ I still don't understand . . . ▪ I had difficulty with . . . ▪ I ____ (name strategy) to help me understand this part. ▪ I can't really understand . . . ▪ I wonder what the author means by . . . ▪ I got lost here because . . . ▪ I need to reread the part where . . .
<p><i>Summarizing and Synthesizing</i></p> <p>Strategic readers identify the most important ideas and restate them in their own words.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How is the text organized? ▪ What is the main idea here? ▪ What essential information do I need to know about the characters, plot, and setting in order to understand the story? ▪ How does the text's organization help me? ▪ What are the key words? ▪ Are the ideas supported with convincing evidence? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The text is mainly about ____. ▪ The author's most important ideas were ____. ▪ The details I need to include are . . . ▪ Some important concepts are . . . ▪ The most important evidence was . . . ▪ The basic gist . . . ▪ The key information is . . . ▪ In a nutshell this says that . . .
<p><i>Determining What's Important</i></p> <p>Strategic readers think about the text's big idea or message and why it's important.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the message or big idea of this text? ▪ What in the text makes me think about the big idea? ▪ How did my thinking about the meaning of the text change as I read? ▪ How can I relate the big idea to events or experiences in my own life? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At first I thought ____, but then I thought ____. ▪ My latest thought about this is ____. ▪ I'm getting a different picture here because ____. ▪ What this means to me is . . . ▪ So, the big idea is . . . ▪ A conclusion I'm drawing is . . . ▪ This is relevant to my life because . . .
<p><i>Analyzing Author's Craft</i></p> <p>Strategic readers notice the way the author uses language to get his or her ideas across.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What words, phrases, or figurative language is the author using to help me create mental images? ▪ What was effective about the author's style of writing? ▪ What stands out about the author's use of details? ▪ How does the author's style relate to the message he or she is trying to convey? ▪ What did the author of the text do that I'd like to try in my own writing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A golden line for me is . . . ▪ I like how the author uses ____ to show ____. ▪ This word/phrase stands out for me because . . . ▪ The simile / metaphor / image that caught my attention was . . . ▪ My favorite quote was . . . ▪ I like how the author described ____ to show . . . ▪ I liked the way the author wrote about ____ because ____.