

# COGNITIVE READING STRATEGIES

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

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