

Setting (time, location and mood of the story)

Where does the story take place? Is this location real or fictional?

When does the story take place— the past, present, future? In a specific date or time period? How do you know?

Is the story set in a specific culture?

What is the mood or the feeling of the story? What details from the story give you this idea?

Point of View (who is telling the story)

Who is the narrator—a character in the story or an unnamed observer who is watching the action unfold?

Does the narrator know all sides of the story or just one side?

What is the effect of the narrator on you? Do you know more about what is going on than the characters? Or do you feel like you are missing important information?

Thinking-While-Reading Strategies

To get the most out of your reading experience, think while you read using the strategies below.

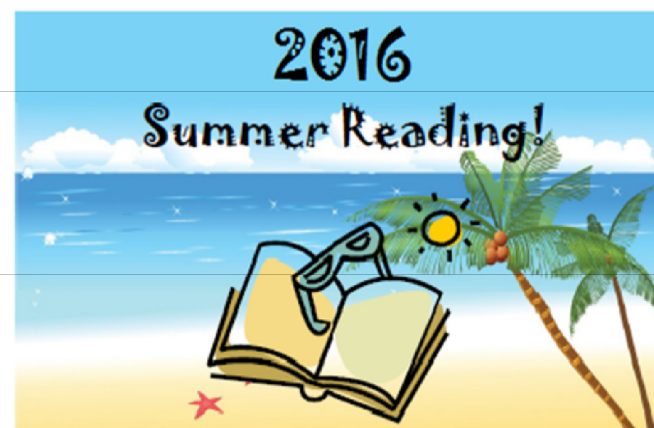
1. Identify the comprehension problem—Are you stuck on a word? Confused by a sentence? Did you just read a whole page but not remember anything you read?
2. Fix the comprehension problem—Use a dictionary to look unknown words, reread anything that doesn't make sense, figure out what is distracting you while reading.
3. Picture the text—Imagine what you would see if the book were a movie playing in your head. Use details from the book to help you form a picture, but use your imagination too.
4. Hear the text— Imagine sounds from the book. How do characters speak? What sounds are part of the setting?
5. Make predictions—What will happen next? How will that affect the story?
6. Make comparisons—What does this story remind you of? Your own experiences? Someone you know? Another book? Something in the news?
7. Make inferences—What does the narrator or a character hint at, but not say?
8. Make comments—Have a conversation with yourself as you read. What do you wonder about? What do you think about characters and their choices?

Theme (the book's message, lesson or central idea)

By reading this book, what can you learn about yourself, other people, or life in general? "Learn" does not mean something factual, as in a school lesson, but rather a life lesson about humans.

What "big picture" ideas come up in this book? Some common themes in literature include friendship, family, race, growing up, dealing with adversity, good versus evil, making choices, courage, loyalty, and journeys.

Name _____



To prevent summer learning loss, university research shows students of all ages should read at least **FIVE** books during the summer break. Keep track of the books you read this summer. Your teachers and classmates are eager to talk with you about the books you read when you return to school in September!

My Summer Reading book title: _____

Author: _____

Other books I read this summer:

Book title: _____

Author: _____

Book title: _____

Author: _____

Book title: _____

Author: _____

Book title: _____

CHARACTER (person or being that carries out the action of a story)

As you read your novel, write down the names of characters you think are important to the story:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Which characters above seem to be the MOST important? Which characters are directly involved in the conflict? Which characters seem to be at the center of the action? Choose up to THREE main characters and write down their personality (not physical) traits.

Character	Personality traits	What happens in the book that shows this trait
Character	Personality traits	What happens in the book that shows this trait
Character	Personality traits	What happens in the book that shows this trait

PLOT (the series of events that make up a story)

What is the main character's **conflict**? What are some significant problem s/he faces?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

As you read your book, list, in order, significant events from the story.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

How did the conflicts listed above get resolved by the end of the book?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____