

Reciprocal Teaching Strategies



SUMMARIZING

If you're asked to summarize, you should say what the passage is about. Keep it short. Describe the big ideas only.

Language that might help you:

- This section is about ____.
- The main point is ____.
- The most important thing this section tells us is ____.
- The author wants us to understand that ____.
- So far, we've learned that ____.
- If I had to sum up the key points in one sentence, I'd say ____.
- The most important person, place, or thing is ____ . The most important idea about this person, place, or thing is ____.

CLARIFYING



If you're asked to clarify, you should find words, ideas, or passages that confuse you and work to clarify them.

Language that might help you:

- Something that confused me was ____.
- I didn't understand ____, so I ____.
- Here's what I think this means: ____.
- I tried to figure this out by ____.
- How can I figure out what this means?
- Here's something I'd like to clarify . . .
- Are there any words whose meanings I need to check?
- Does this reasoning make sense? Why or why not?



GENERATING QUESTIONS

If you're asked to generate questions, you should develop questions about important information from the passage.

Language that might help you:

- Who/what/when/where ____?
- How ____?
- Why ____?
- What if ____?
- In what ways ____?
- Would/should/could ____?
- Why is this important to know?
- What's the reason/explanation for ____?

MAKING PREDICTIONS



If you're asked to make predictions, you should use what you know and clues in the text to predict what will come next.

Language that might help you:

- I think the author will discuss ____ because ____.
- I think I will learn ____ because ____.
- I predict the next section will be about ____ because ____.
- I don't think this text will cover ____ because ____.
- A clue I found to support this prediction was ____.
- Based on what I know about this topic, I predict ____.
- A clue to what will come next is ____.
- There isn't enough information to make a good prediction.

Rules for when reading with others:

1. Know your role. Which strategy or strategies have you been asked to use?
2. Read the assigned passage carefully. Use the appropriate strategy or strategies.
3. Make notes that will help you lead a discussion about what you read.
4. Lead a discussion about the passage. Use the provided starters / sample language to help you.
5. Get your classmates engaged by posing direct questions. For example, "Do you want to add anything to my summary?" "How might we clarify what this means?" "Do you agree with my prediction?"
6. Ensure that everyone participates. Everyone should lead a discussion and respond to other discussion leaders.

