

Personal Reading Record

Suggestions for Response

In the **Comments** section of your weekly reading record, I have indicated that you should make Inferences, Predictions, Connecting to Prior Knowledge, Text to Text, Text to Self, and Text to World Connections.

The following questions – taken from *Writers Inc*, p. 220 – will help you react personally (by making those kinds of connections) to the books you read. Use this list only when you can't think of your own starting point. (By changing the questions slightly, you can use this same list to react to other forms of literature – plays, poems, short stories, etc.) Keep this list in the Handouts section of your notebook for reference throughout the year.

Making Connections

1. What were your feelings after reading the opening chapter(s) of the book? After reading half of the book? After finishing the book?
2. Did the book make you laugh? Cry? Cringe? Smile? Cheer? Explain.
3. What connections are there between the book and your life? Explain.
4. What is the most important word in the book? The most important passage? The most important event? Explain.
5. Who else should read this book? Why?

Points of Interest

6. What are the best parts of the book? Why? What are the worst parts? Why?
7. Do you like the ending of the book? Why or why not?
8. What came as a surprise in the book? Why?
9. What parts of the book seem most believable or unbelievable? Why?
10. What makes you wonder in this book? What confuses you?

Strictly in Character

11. In what ways are you like any of the characters? Explain.
12. Do any of the characters remind you of friends, family members, or classmates? Explain.
13. Which character would you like to be in this book? Why?
14. What would you and your favorite character talk about?

Careful Reflections

15. Do you think the title fits the book? Why or why not?
16. What was the author saying about life and living?
17. Has this book helped you in some way? Explain.
18. How have you changed after reading this book? Explain.
19. What do you know now that you didn't know before?
20. What questions in this book would you like answered?