

Discussion Director

Class _____ Name _____ Novel _____

Assignment: p. _____ to p. _____

Questioner/Discussion Director: Your job is to develop a list of questions that your group can discuss about this part of the novel. Your questions should be ones which require thought and get everyone talking and sharing their opinion & feelings. The best discussion questions come from your own thoughts, feelings, and concerns as you read. Factual or 'yes/no' type questions are NOT what we want.

Order for leading your group discussion:

1. Call on the Summarizer to read the summary and her/his question
2. Pose each one of your questions to your group for discussion
3. Ask for each member of your group to state their comment/questions about this section of the novel
4. You should lead your group in responding to what each person says
5. Call on the Connections Maker
6. Call on the Illustrator
7. Call on the Passage Master (if applicable)
8. Solicit topic(s) to be carried over to next session from the group.

Discussion questions or topics for today:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Tips: Topics to consider in leading your discussion

- A discussion of a work's characters: are they realistic, symbolic, historically-based?
- What motivates the characters or leads them to make the choices they do? (refer to specific characters/actions)
- An in-depth discussion of the reading's events – especially those which might be deeply significant
- Clarification of any confusing passage or event
- Predictions of what might happen in the story and why
- The historical context and/or events that occurred in a particular work
- Commentary on the social, political, or economic context in which a work was written -- how does the context influence the work?
- An analysis of a *specific* image, passage, phrase, etc.
- An analysis of a *recurring* image, phrase, event, etc.

Topics to be carried over to next discussion: _____

Literature Circle Role Sheet

Summarizer

Class _____ Name _____ Novel _____

Assignment: p. _____ to p. _____

Summarizer: Your job is to prepare a brief summary of today's reading. Your group discussion will start with your 1-2 minute statement that covers the *key points*, *main highlights*, and *general idea* of today's reading assignment.

My Title for this Section (you create this title):

Summary:

My group agreed that my summary was complete and accurate (circle one) yes no
(if no, add what was missing on the back of this sheet)

My question about this part of the book is _____

Connections Maker

Class _____ Name _____ Novel _____

Assignment: p. _____ to p. _____

Your job is to find connections between the book and you, and between the book and the wider world. Consider the list below when you make your connections.

- Your own past experiences
- Happenings at school or in the community
- Stories in the news
- Similar events at other times and places
- Other people or problems that you are reminded of
- Between this book and other writings on the same topic or by the same author

In your Lit Circle, do the following:

1. Direct the group to turn to the page of your first passage; read it aloud to the group
2. Share your notes – tell whether you make a personal, contemporary, or historical connection
3. Tell the group why you chose this connection
4. Solicit other ideas from the group about things this reminds them of
5. Repeat for each passage

Some connections I made between this reading and my own experiences, the wider world, and other texts or authors:

1. The passage is on page _____, paragraph _____. Connection: _____

2. The passage is on page _____, paragraph _____. Connection: _____

3. The passage is on page _____, paragraph _____. Connection: _____

My question about this part of the book is _____

Literature Circle Roles

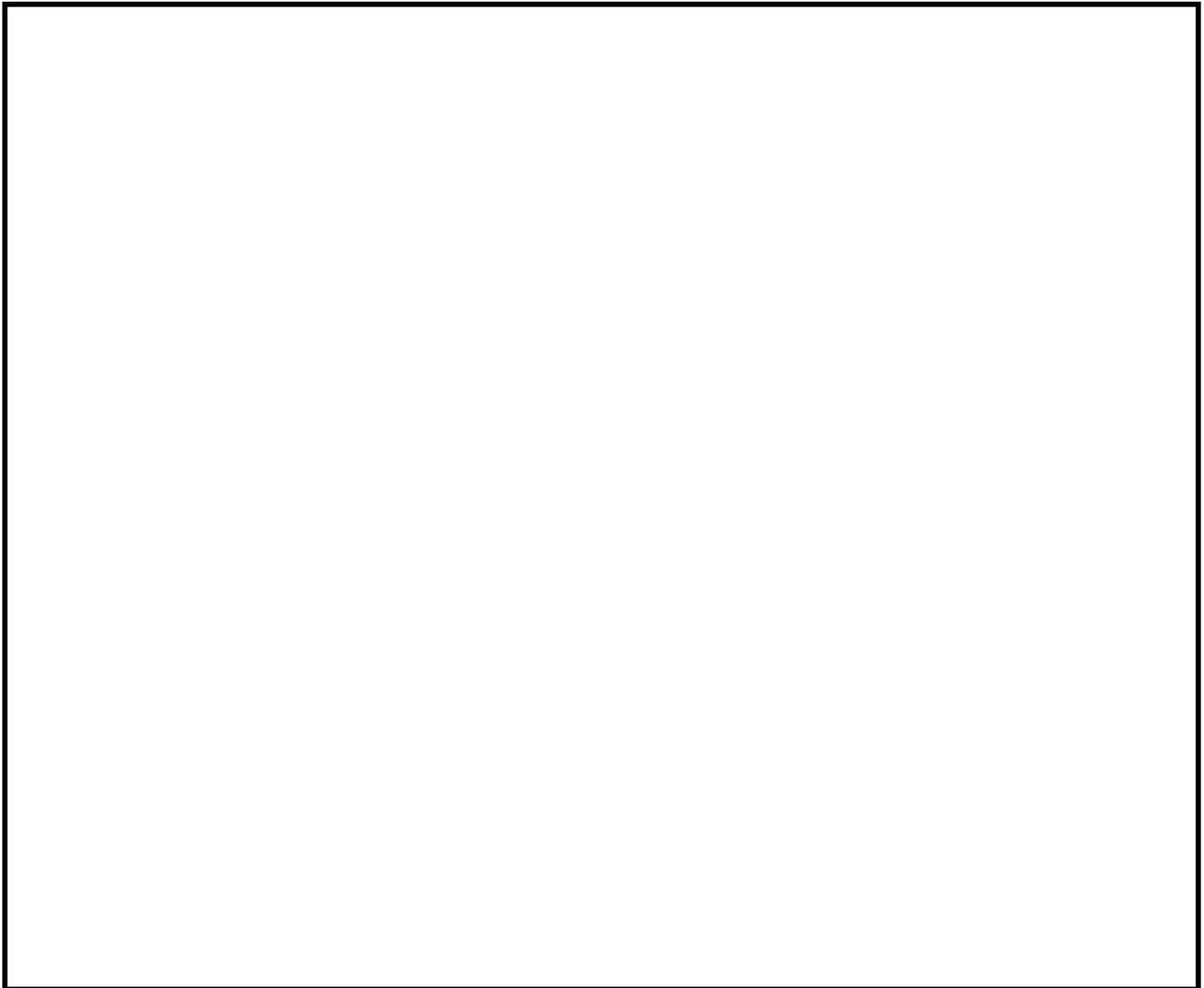
Illustrator

Class _____ Name _____ Novel _____

Assignment: p. _____ to p. _____

Illustrator: Good readers make pictures in their minds as they read. This is a chance to share some of your own images and visions. This might mean drawing a scene as a cartoon-like sequence or focusing on an important scene so readers can better understand the action and key details in it. You might create maps or organizational charts to show how one person, place, or event relates to the others. You may choose to label your drawings so we know who everyone is. You can complete your illustration below or on a separate sheet of art paper.

Presentation Plan: Whenever it fits in the conversation, show your drawing to your group. You don't have to explain it immediately. You can let people speculate what your picture means, so they can connect your drawing to their own ideas about the reading. After everyone has had a say, you always have the last word: *tell them what your picture means, refer to the parts in the text that you used, and convey what it represents to you.*



My question about this part of the book is _____

Passage Master

Class _____ Name _____ Novel _____

Assignment: p. _____ to p. _____

Your job is to locate three passages of the story that your group should re-read, discuss, and think about.

Passages should be important things or everyone to notice, remember, or think about. Choose a variety of passages – here are some suggestions:

- Confusing (something that bewildered you or you wonder if other people “got”)
- Good descriptive writing: figurative language, strong verbs, sensory details, etc. (identify literary devices such as personification, metaphor, etc.)
- Important (maybe a clue? Involves foreshadowing?)
- Controversial events (elicit different opinions from group members)

During your group meeting, do the following:

1. Make sure everyone opens to the correct page; help them find where the passage begins.
2. Either read it aloud yourself or ask someone to read it.
3. Tell your reasons for selecting each passage & ask for comments/opinions of others in your group.

Passage 1: page _____ paragraph(s) _____. The first three words of the paragraph are _____
_____. This passage is interesting (or puzzling) because:

Passage 2: page _____ paragraph(s) _____. The first three words of the paragraph are _____
_____. This passage is interesting (or puzzling) because:

Passage 3: page _____ paragraph(s) _____. The first three words of the paragraph are _____
_____. This passage is interesting (or puzzling) because:

My question about this part of the book is: _____
_____.