

Appendix A

Help Pages

Monday Notes

SUBJECT OF A SELECTION

- Look at the first sentence.
- Look for any repeated words or names.
- Read the selection a second time.

TITLES

- The title should hint at what the selection is about.
- The first word should always begin with a capital letter.
- The last word should always begin with a capital letter.
- All important words should begin with capital letters.
- Words like *a*, *an*, and *the* don't need to be capitalized unless they are the first word of the title.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE

- entertain – The author tells a personal or fictional story that is based on real or imaginary events.
- persuade – The author lets the readers know how he/she thinks about the subject or tries to talk the reader into thinking like the author thinks.
- inform – The author gives information about a subject.
- explain – The author helps the readers understand a subject.
- teach – The author gives directions on how to do something.
- describe – The author gives a picture with words of a person, place, event, or item.

READER'S PURPOSE

- There are many reasons you might have for reading the selection.
 - ex: *gain information, learn something, understand a difficult subject, be entertained, etc.*

GENRE

- Genre is the name used to identify types of literature.
 - ex: *realistic fiction, fantasy, folktale/fairytale, science fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, real-world writing, biography, autobiography*

Tuesday Notes

WORDS

- **affix** – Either a prefix or suffix added to a base word.
- **analogy** – An analogy shows the relationship between two things.
 - ex: *inside : outside :: up : down*
 - This is how you read this analogy: **inside is to outside as up is to down.**
 - The single colon stands for *is to*. The double colon stands for *as*.
- **antonyms** – Antonyms are words that have opposite or almost opposite meanings.
 - ex: *hot/cold* *inside/outside*
- **base word** – A base word is the main part of a word without any prefixes or suffixes.
 - ex: *unhappy = happy* *jumping = jump*
- **compound word** – A compound word is one word made up of two words.
 - ex: *downtown* *into* *playground*
- **contraction** – A contraction is a word that is made from two words. An apostrophe is put in where the letters are left out.
 - ex: *cannot = can't* *is not = isn't*
- **homograph** – A homograph is a word that is spelled the same as another word, but is pronounced differently and has a different meaning.
 - ex: *live – live* *project - project*
- **homophones** – (sometimes called **homonyms**) Homophones are words that sound alike, but are spelled differently and have different meanings.
 - ex: *two, to, too* *weak, week*
- **prefix** – A prefix is the letter or group of letters put at the beginning of a base or root word to change the word's meaning.
 - ex: *un + happy = unhappy* *re + new = renew*
- **singular/plural** – These are words in which the suffixes are added or removed to show number.
 - ex: *house + s = houses* *families – ies + y = family*
- **suffix** – A suffix is the letter or group of letters put at the end of a word or part of a word.
 - ex: *quick + ly = quickly* *move + able = moveable*
- **synonyms** – Synonyms are words that have the same or almost the same meaning.
 - ex: *small, tiny* *large, big*
- **unknown words** – The author uses a word that you don't know or understand.
 - Sometimes you need to look up the word in a dictionary.

Wednesday Notes

IDIOM

- An idiom is a group of words or a phrase that has a hidden meaning.
- You can't understand the meaning of an idiom by what the words say.
 - ex: *It is raining cats and dogs.*

INFERENCE (THE STORY DOESN'T SAY)

- Sometimes an author doesn't tell the reader everything in a selection.
- The reader needs to put together the words from the selection with what he/she already knows to understand a selection.
- You infer information. Some people call this "reading between the lines."

MOOD

- The mood refers to the feelings of a selection.
- ex: *sad, happy, fearful, comfortable*

OPINION OR FACT

- opinion – An opinion tells the author's thoughts about a subject.
- fact – A fact is a statement that can be proven to be true.

POINT OF VIEW

- first-person point of view – The story is told by one of the characters.
- third-person point of view – The story is told by a narrator not in the story.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

- Use what you already know to help you understand what you are reading.

PROBLEM OF A STORY

- The author presents a problem in the selection.
- This problem must be solved.
- The problem can be identified by carefully reading the selection.

SETTING

- The setting is where and when the selection takes place.
- The setting can be real or imaginary.

TRUE OR FALSE

- true – All parts of the sentence or selection are real and not made up.
- false – Some or all of the sentence or selection is untrue or made up.

TYPE OF WRITING

- descriptive – This type of writing presents a description of a person, place, thing, or idea.
- expository – This type of writing gives information or explains something.
- narrative – This type of writing tells a story.
- persuasive – This type of writing expresses an opinion and tries to convince you that this opinion is correct.

Thursday Notes

ALLITERATION

- Alliteration is repeating the same consonant sound at the beginning of several words in a sentence.
 - ex: *The dog dove into the water while chasing the flying Frisbee.*

MAIN IDEA

- The main idea is the subject and the most important thing about the subject.
- Do these steps to find the main idea.
 - Look at the first sentence of the selection.
 - Look at the last sentence of the selection.
 - Look at all the sentences of the selection.
- Sometimes the author doesn't tell you the main idea. You must figure it out.

METAPHOR

- A metaphor is a direct and unusual comparison. It does not use the words *like* or *as*.
 - ex: *The ocean is a shining pane of glass.*

PREDICTING

- Predicting is saying what you think might happen within or beyond a selection.
- ex: *I think the scientist will find an answer to his question.*

SIMILE

- A simile compares two unlike things usually using the words *as* or *like*.
 - ex: *Tom was as hungry as a bear.*

SKIM THROUGH THE SELECTION

- To skim you move your eyes quickly down a page to find the answer.
- Don't read every word or sentence.
 1. ex: *find important ideas, find the subject, or do a quick review*

TOPIC SENTENCE AND SUPPORTING DETAILS

- The topic sentence suggests the focus of the selection.
- The supporting details give information about the topic.

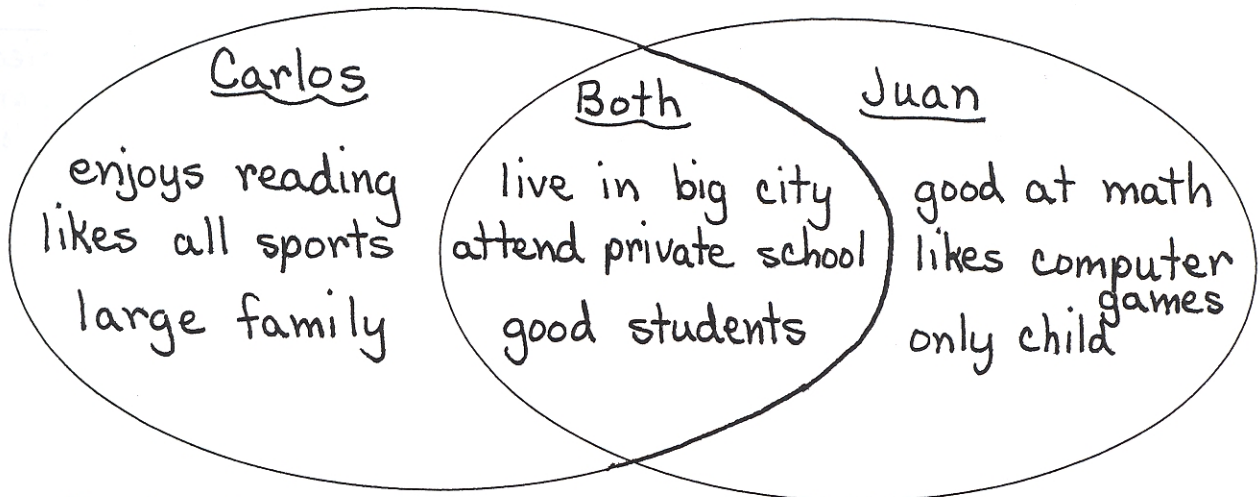
VISUALIZATION

- Visualize means to picture the characters or setting in your mind.
- Sometimes drawing a picture helps you understand a selection.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

• Venn Diagram

- Use this graphic to compare two pieces of literature, two characters, or two settings in a selection.
- List ways that the two things are the same and different.



• Storyboard

- Use a storyboard to keep track of the order of events in a story.
- A storyboard should show the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- Write a few words and draw simple pictures on the storyboard.

Beginning	Middle	End
Sarah wanted to try out for the band. 🎵 🎶	She practiced and took flute lessons.	Sarah made the band. 🎵 🎷

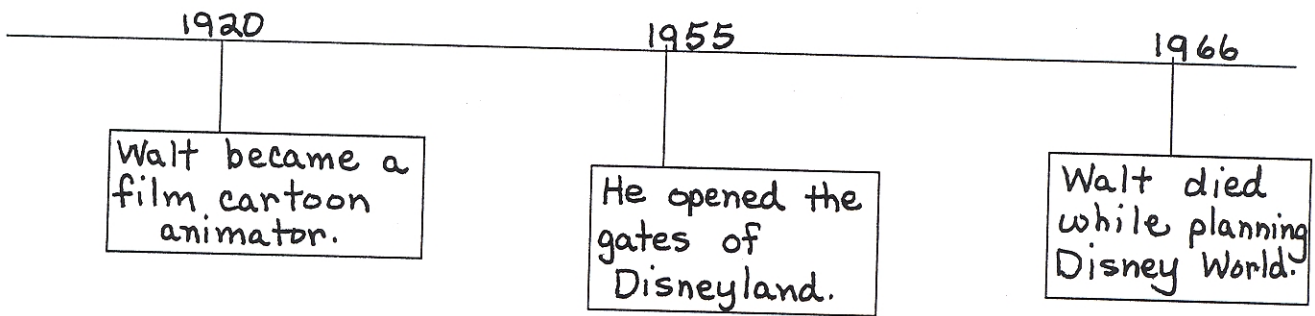
• Chart

- Make a chart using columns or rows of boxes.
- List information from the selection on the chart.

Honey Nut Cereal	Frosted Wheat Cereal
110 calories Fat - 1.5 g. Protein - 3 g. Cholesterol - 0 g.	200 calories Fat 1 g. Protein - 6 g. Cholesterol - 0 g.

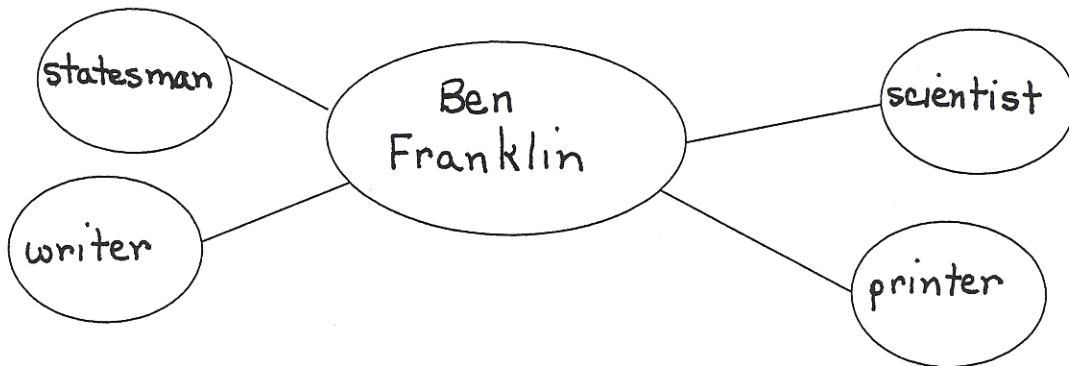
- **Timeline**

- List dates or events in the order in which they happened in a story.



- **Character Web**

- A web can be used for fiction and nonfiction stories.
- Connect the character in the big circle with details in the small circles.



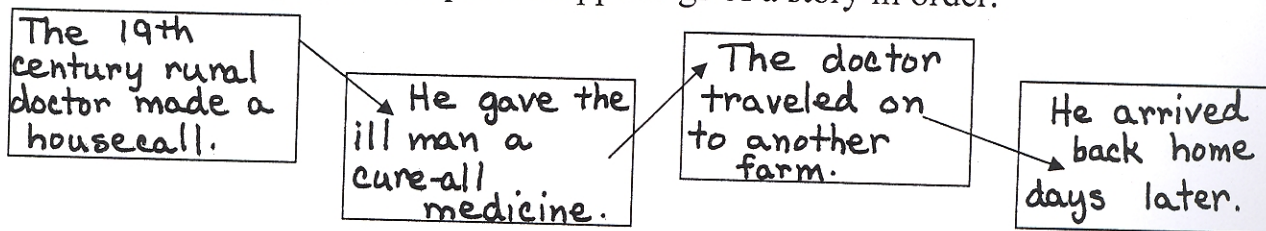
- **Cause-effect**

- This graphic shows the connection between two or more events.
- The first event makes the second one happen.



- **Story String**

- This graphic keeps the happenings of a story in order.



Friday Notes

KEY WORDS

- Key words are important words in a story or selection.
- Key words help you understand a selection.
- Key words are most often nouns or verbs.
- You should highlight the key words to help you remember where they are in the selection.
- You will use these key words to write your summary.
 - ex: *bat, large ears, sound, echoes, fly safely*

SUMMARY

- A summary is a short retelling of the main ideas or events of a selection.
- A summary must be written in your own words. You should not copy sentences from the selection.
- Write three or four sentences for your summary.
- Use your key words from the selection in your summary.
- When you read your summary, it should help you remember what the selection is about.
 - ex: *A bat uses its large ears to collect echoes. These echoes help the bat fly safely and not run into objects.*