Notice and Note Strategies for Close (literary) Reading

by Kylene Beers and Robert E Probst

Expository Parallels by Susan E Richmond
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<td><strong>STOP and Notice and Note</strong></td>
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<td>When you are reading and a character asks himself a really difficult question, you should STOP and ask yourself: <strong>“Why is the character doing that?”</strong> The answer could help you make a prediction or make an inference about the plot and the conflict.</td>
<td>When you are reading and the author makes a conclusion or states an opinion, you should STOP and ask yourself: <strong>“How might this change things?”</strong> If the character figured out a problem, you probably just learned about the conflict. If the character understood a life lesson, you probably just learned the theme.</td>
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<td>When you are reading and a concept, idea or events is opposite (contradicts) of what the author has been telling us all along, you should STOP and ask yourself: <strong>“Why is the author doing that?”</strong> The answer will tell you about the problem and might give you ideas about what the outcome will be.</td>
<td>When you are reading and suddenly the author makes a conclusion or states an opinion, you should STOP and ask yourself: <strong>“How might this change my understanding about the topic?”</strong> If the author states an opinion you probably just learned about a conflict or problem. If the author makes a conclusion you probably just learned the main idea.</td>
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### Words of the Wise Signpost #4

**Literary Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and a character (who's probably older and lots wiser) takes the main character aside and gives serious advice,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“What is the life lesson and how might it affect the character?”

Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found a theme for the story.

**Expository Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and the author (who is an expert at his subject) states serious consequences of actions,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“What’s the lesson for readers to learn and how might it affect the reader?”

Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found the purpose the author wrote the passage (or main idea).

### Again and Again Signpost #5

**Literary Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and you notice a word, phrase, object or situation mentioned over and over,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“Why does this keep showing up again and again?”

The answer will tell you about the theme and conflict, or they might foreshadow what will happen later.

**Expository Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and you notice a word, phrase, object or situation mentioned over and over,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“Why does this keep showing up again and again?”

The answer will tell you about key details and the main idea and problems or conflicts of opinions or they will foreshadow what the outcome will be.

### Memory Moment Signpost #6

**Literary Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and the author interrupts the action to tell you a memory,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“Why might this memory be important?”

The answer will tell you about the theme, conflict or might foreshadow what will happen later in the story.

**Expository Text**

**STOP and Notice and Note**

When you are reading and the author interrupts the main idea to tell the reader about a supporting idea or thought,

You should **STOP** and ask yourself:

“Why might this idea or thought be important?”

The answer will tell you about key details and the main idea and problems or conflicts of opinions or they will foreshadow what the outcome will be.