Predicting

A prediction is a good guess about what you think you will find out about or what will happen next in a text.

Good readers make predications before they read and as they read.

Things that help you make a prediction . . .

- Headings, pictures and other text features.
- The questions the author asks.
- Making connections to what you already know – your background knowledge and experience.
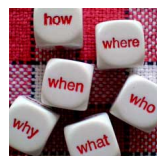- Skimming, scanning and rereading the text.

Prediction sentence starters:

- *Based on the title, subheadings, picture/diagram, etc), I predict that this page/chapter will be about...*
- *I think the next chapter (or page) will be about...*
- *From the questions I think that I will find out about...*
- *Based on (a clue), I imagine that...*

Questioning

Asking questions about a text helps you have a purpose or reason for reading and deepens your understanding.

Good readers ask themselves questions all the time while they are reading and read to answer those questions.

Ask 'teacher-like' questions:

- *What is going on...?*
- *When is this happening?*
- *Where is...?*
- *Who will...?*
- *How is...?*
- *Why is...important?*
- *Why is that happening?*
- *How are _____ and ___ alike*
- *or different?*
- *Why would happen if...?*
- *What does ... mean?*
- *How will it ....?*
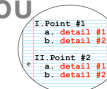- *How come...?*
- *What might...?*
- *Why can...?*

Summarising

Summarising a text means picking out the main ideas and leaving out anything that is not essential.

Good readers look for the main ideas as they read and can give 'the gist' of what they have read in their own words.

How to summarise what you read:

- Look at the topic sentences - the first sentence in each paragraph.
- Look at the concluding sentence - the last sentence in each paragraph.
- Answer the - *Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?* – of the text.
- Focus on key details.
- Use key words and phrases.
- Leave out little details that aren't important.
- Write only enough to convey the gist.
- Use thinking maps, mind maps, graphic organisers, etc. to plan your summary.
- Use a coding system as you read.

Clarifying

Clarifying means making the meaning of the text clearer. Clarifying helps you recognise when you don't understand parts of a text.

Good readers, when they notice they don't understand what they've read take steps to restore meaning.

You read it but haven't got It when:

- The voice inside your head has stopped.
- The camera in your head or the movie stops.
- Your mind begins to wander.
- You can't remember what you just read.
- The questions you have are not answered.
- You have no idea what a word or phrase means or can say a word but don't remember what it means.

Clarifying or fix- it up strategies:

- Re-read the part you don't understand, you may 'get it' the second time.
- Read forwards and backwards.
- If it's a word you don't understand, use the rest of the sentence to figure out what it means.
- Look at the text features for clues.
- Use a dictionary to look up words.
- Ask a student or your teacher for help.

Visualising

Visualising means picturing what you read in your mind. It is about creating pictures in your head based on the text read or words heard.

Good readers can visualise text that it is almost like watching a movie. They make pictures in their heads to go with words and the text.

Visualise a picture in your mind:

- As you read a story or novel picture it in your mind. Think about: time period; location; season; colours; clothes etc.
- Make a picture in your mind of the characters using what the author says about them.
- Try to picture in your mind the events/sequence that you are reading about in history, science, etc.
- Picture in your mind an image to go with the keywords of a topic.
- Create storyboards of what you have read.
- Create mind maps of what you have read using your mental images.

Making Inferences

Making inferences means reading between the lines and understanding what the author means, even though it is not explicitly stated in the text Predicting is part of inferring.

Good readers figure out things that aren't actually written in the text by using "clues" that the writer leaves and their prior knowledge to draw conclusions, make judgments and form new ideas.

What can you infer from this?

Sam was doing his homework. He sighed and turned the pages of the journal.

Is Sam enjoying doing the homework? How do you know? Does the text state it?

Make Inferences by:

- Reading carefully.
- Use language clues.
- Use what you know already.
- Ask questions.
- Think really hard!