Close Reading Skills and Agriculture Appreciation
Close Reading

A Careful Purposeful Reading Of A Text

First Read: Get the Gist
• What’s the main idea?
• Can you summarize the text?
• What jumps out at you?
• What questions do you have?

Second Read: Dig a Little Deeper
• What text structures and features were used?
• What is the author’s purpose?
• How does the author feel about the subject?
• Why did the author use particular words and phrases?

Third Read: Put it all Together
• What inferences can you make?
• How does the author support key points?
• How does this relate to other texts you’ve read?
• How does this relate to your life?
Close Reading

Annotation Marks

○ • Unfamiliar words or phrases

? • I don’t understand

--- • Words or phrases that jump out at you

! • Surprising or important parts

❤ • Love this part. It is my favorite.

_weather_cloud_ • I predict...

∞ • Connection to self, text, world, or media.

“This makes me think of…”

★ • Main idea, evidence for main idea
Listen to Chapter 1

Practice Close Reading Annotations

Date: __________________
Make A Prediction

How Will Jaz’s Meeting-Party Go?

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Assignment:
Read Chapter 2 independently. Use a pencil and a Thinkmark.
List of Tricky Words

Write The Words That You Circled From Chapter 2 In This Box

Analyzing main ideas

Small group discussion questions:

- What motivated Summer to try to befriend Jenson in Chapter 3?  
- Why did the author include Jiican’s story? Page 29  
- What more have we learned about what it is like to work for custom harvesters?  
- What more has Summer shared with us about harvest time? Pages 36-40
Make A Prediction

Write 3 Predictions On What Will Happen In The Book.

First...

Next...

Finally...

Assignment:
Read Chapters 6, 7, and 8 with annotations on Thinkmarks.
Group Discussion

Discovering Text-to-Text, Text-to-Self, and Text-to-World connections:

- What does this phrase on page 60 mean? “Your personality hasn’t settled in yet.”
- What importance does weather have to farming? Pages 64-65
- Discuss Mrs. Parker’s character traits.
- Discuss finding a grocery store in Chapter 6.

**Text-to-Self**

Connect what you are reading to something from your life.
- That reminds me of something that happened to me... because...
- An experience I have had like that is... because...
- I feel like that character when... because...

**Text-to-Text**

Connect what you are reading to another story you have read.
- That reminds me of a book I read... because...
- This character is like another character... because...
- The author’s style of writing is like another author’s because...

**Text-to-World**

Connect what you are reading to something from the world.
- That reminds me of something I heard about... because...
- This text connects to something my mom told me about because...
Partner Discussion

Discovering Text-to-Text, Text-to-Self, and Text-to-World connections:

• Why does Summer find it hard to believe her grandmother laid with her while she was dying? Page 79
• Are there any questions on the harvest information shared? Pages 86-87
• What are your thoughts of Robbie, or of embarrassment?
• Discuss “being a normal person” as mentioned. Pages 105-106
• What jumped out at you during the sausages scene in Ch. 8?
• What did we learn about Robbie’s personality on Summer’s date with him to the barn?
• What is this book starting to be about?

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Assignment:
Read Chapters 10, 11, and 12 with annotations on Thinkmarks.
Hot Seat Discussion

Take turns answering a discussion question in character.

• Summer, what did you learn about yourself when you told Obaachan about the chickens?
• Summer, what did you learn from reading A Separate Peace? Can you connect that lesson to other things Summer has said? Page 154
• Obaachan, why were you ashamed of Summer? Pages 159-160
• Summer, how were you feeling at the end of chapter 11? What has caused that feeling?
• Mr. or Mrs. Parker, what is going on with Jiichan? How did you feel about Jiichan’s sickness?
• Robbie, what did you learn about Summer when she visits you for a 2nd time?
• Mrs. Parker, what did Summer mean when she asked you about being humiliated and proud at the same time? Page 199
• Jiichan, when Mrs. Parker comes to check on you, what did you discover about her personality?
Journal

Write 3-5 sentences about any of the following questions as an in-class writing assignment:

• Why did the author include Summer’s two journal entries? Pages 148-149
• What does the rain cause the crew to do? Page 171
• What happened when Summer went to see Robbie? Page 177
• What does Jaz worry about? How is that like Summer? Page 179
• What is the lesson from Jiichan’s story? Page 181
• Why did the author include the part about “Opinions and Social Pressure,” the article Jiichan gave Summer to read? Page 184

Assignment:
Read Chapters 13, 14, 15, and 16 with annotations on Thinkmarks.
Create a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting a pair of characters. Choose one pair to write about:

- Mrs. Parker vs. Obaachan
- Robbie vs. Summer
- Mick vs. Jiichan
- Mr. Parker vs. Oklahoma farmer