



1Br: Skills Card

Reader: _____ Room: _____

Comprehension

Provide specific information from the text for each of your answers.

Literature

1. Identify the genre of this text. Compare this book to other books in the same genre. Is the author's use of the key elements of the genre typical or atypical? Why?
2. Determine the theme. Discuss how the theme is developed by the author from the beginning to the end of the text.
3. Analyze the effect of the setting on one of the characters and/or the events as they unfold.
4. Find an example of figurative language. Describe its effect on meaning and mood.
5. Discuss the author's choice of key characters. What roles did each play? What points of view or perspectives did each hold? Why was each chosen? Which is closest to yours? Why?
6. Does the author refer to any real people, geographical locations, or historical events in this text? How and why are they used? In what ways does s/he alter them for the purpose of the text? Are these choices effective?

Informational Text

7. Determine two central ideas and explain how the author develops them over the course of the text.
8. Do individuals shape ideas and events, or do ideas and events shape individuals? Use the information in this text to support your position.
9. Analyze the structure the author chose for organizing the ideas presented: compare/contrast, cause/effect, pro/con, chronological, sequential, logic, problem/solution, other.
10. Describe an author's basic argument, point of view, or purpose for writing. How are other positions presented? What is your position on this topic?
11. Evaluate the author's case. Are the facts and reasoning valid, sufficient, and relevant? Has it influenced your thinking on the subject? How?

Range of Reading

1. Complete a chapter book every other week.
2. Read at least 1 full-length chapter book in each of these genres: historical fiction, biography, science fiction, fantasy, contemporary fiction.
3. Choose a topic in science or history to explore. Become an expert on it.
4. Find a poet you particularly like. Become an expert on his/her work.
5. Read for an hour a day, including 30 minutes at home without anyone reminding you.



1Br: Literary Vocabulary

Literary Elements	Figurative Language	Forms	Drama	Poetry
allusion	adage	allegory	act	ballad
antagonist	aesthetic	autobiography	ad lib	blank verse
comedic relief	ambiguity	biography	aside	free verse
dialect	analogy	caricature	audition	haiku
episode	aphorism	comedy	backstage	limerick
flashback	cliche	contemporary	callback	narrative
flash forward	connotation	drama	cast	quatrain
foreshadowing	denotation	epic	chorus	sonnet
genre	euphemism	essay	comedy	stanza
imagery	figure of speech	eulogy	crew	verse
irony	hyperbole	fable	denouement	
juxtaposition	idiom	fantasy	dialogue	
lead	implicit	farce	diatribe	
mood	innuendo	legend	diction	Sound Techniques
narrator	literal	lyric	director	
paradox	metaphor	memoir	gesture	alliteration
parallel plot	non-literal	myth	improvisation	assonance
perspective	paradox	novel	melodrama	cadence
point of view	personification	novella	mime	iambic pentameter
prose	proverb	parable	monologue	
protagonist	nuance	parody	pantomime	internal rhyme
recurring theme	oxymoron	poem	playwright	meter
	pun	romance	producer	onomatopoeia
structure	simile	satire	props	rhyme scheme
subplot	superlative	science fiction	scene	rhythm
suspense	subtlety	short story	screenplay	stress
tone	symbolic	traditional	script	
tension		tragedy	soliloquy	
voice				

Vocabulary

Find a word you don't know and would like to learn. Use the context to figure out what it probably means. Think of a word or phrase that could take its place in the book without changing the meaning. Check the meaning in a dictionary. Use the word in a sentence. Learn it.