

BLM OLE.4#5: Suggested Writing Topics for Reading Circle Response Log (Fiction)

Choose one or more of the following ideas and questions to assist you in responding to texts, using BLM OLE.4#6: Reading Circle Response Log.

1. What predictions can be made about the story using the cover of the book, the table of contents, and the illustrations?
2. Who wrote this story? When was it written? What purpose did the author have in writing this story?
3. Describe the setting of the story using words and pictures.
4. Describe the main character using words and pictures. Write a paragraph to compare this character to yourself.
5. What is the story about? What is the story's main conflict? Predict how it may be resolved.
6. What do you like about the story? Give the author suggestions for improvements.
7. Make a comic strip showing the main events in the story.
8. Write a different ending to the story.
9. Is this a feel happy, feel sad, feel angry, or feel... kind of story? Explain.
10. Choose a passage that appeals to as many senses as possible. Prepare to read this passage aloud in your Reading Circle group.
11. Think about this week's reading selection. Which events or people are most vivid? Make a sketch illustrating a vivid event or person.
12. Choose a character. List at least 10 adjectives that describe that person. Give a reason for the choice of adjectives.
13. A cinquain poem has five lines and a definite pattern, but it does not rhyme. Here is an example:
 - Line 1: 1 word Michael
 - Line 2: 2 words Gentle giant
 - Line 3: 3 words Helping many people
 - Line 4: 4 words His courage is unique
 - Line 5: 1 word Policeman
14. Select a character from the text. Write a cinquain poem about this character. Share it in your Reading Circle group.
15. Make a list of 10 new words you learned from the story. Beside each word, write a synonym and a sentence using the word correctly.
16. Write a friendly letter (minimum of 100 words) to the author of the story, giving personal ideas and opinions about the story. Put the letter in an envelope and send it to the publisher.
17. Make a travel brochure to advertise the setting of the story.
18. Does this story resemble real life? Explain in personal terms.
19. Write a reading response for the section of the story just completed. The response should consist of three paragraphs:
 - The first paragraph is a summary.
 - The second paragraph is a prediction of what will happen next.
 - The third paragraph is a comment about an issue or problem that is happening in the story.