



STOP and Notice and Note



When you're reading, and a **character** says or **does something** that's the **opposite** (*contradicts*) of what he/she has been saying or doing all along, you should **stop** and ask yourself:

"Why is the character doing that?"

- The answer could help you make a prediction or make an inference about the **plot, conflict**, and **character development**.

What does the character say or do? _____

Why is the character doing that? _____

Why did this Contrast and Contradiction matter? _____



STOP and Notice and Note



When you're reading, and a **character** (who's probably **older** and a lot **wiser**) takes the **main character** aside and **gives serious advice**, you should **stop** and ask yourself:

"What's the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?"

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

What advice does an older, wiser character give? _____

What's the life lesson and how will it impact the character? _____

Why did this Words of the Wiser matter? _____

and Notice and Note



When you're reading, and a **character suddenly realizes, understands, or finally figures** something out, you should **stop** and ask yourself:

"How might this change things?"

- 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**.

What did the character suddenly realize? _____

How might this change things? _____

Why does this Aha Moment matter? _____

and Notice and Note



When you're reading, and a **character asks himself a really difficult question**, you should **stop** and ask yourself:

"What does this question make me wonder about?"

- The answers will tell you about the **conflict** and might give you ideas about what will happen later in the story.
- This may be written as a **statement** but will be one implying **confusion** or **uncertainty**.

What question does the character ask himself? _____

What does this question make me wonder about? _____

What did the character suddenly realize? _____

How might this change things? _____

Why does this Tough Question matter? _____



STOP and Notice and Note



When you're 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 answers will tell you about the **theme** and **conflict**, or they might **foreshadow** what will happen later.

What is the repeated word, phrase, etc.? _____

Why does this keep showing up? _____

Why does this Again and Again matter? _____



STOP and Notice and Note



When you're 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 answers will tell you about the **theme, conflict**, or might **foreshadow** what will happen next in the story.

What memory did the character remember? _____

Why might this memory be important? _____

Why does the Memory Moment matter? _____
