

Signposts to Look for While Reading

Signpost	Definition	Text Clue	Ask Yourself
Contrasts & Contradictions	When a character does something that contrasts with what you'd expect or contradicts his earlier acts or statements.	The author shows feelings or actions the reader hasn't seen before and doesn't expect.	Why is the character doing that?
Aha! Moment	When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures out something.	Characters say "I realized..." or "I suddenly knew..." or "Now I know why..."	How might this change things?
Tough Questions	When a character asks herself a very difficult question.	Character asks self or another a hard question.	What does this question make me wonder about?
Words of the Wiser	When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the protagonist aside and offers serious advice.	A wiser, often older, character offers a life lesson, usually in a quiet moment.	What is the life lesson and how might it affect the character?
Again & Again	When you notice a word, phrase, or situation mentioned over and over.	A repeated image, phrase, or reference.	Why does this keep happening again and again.
Memory Moment	When the author interrupts the action to tell you about a memory.	"I suddenly remembered..." or "I remember..." or "Thinking back..."	Why might this memory be important?