

# Reading Pods: Note-taking & Discussion Strategy

## Instructions:

- Every group member should read & take notes over the entire selection.
  - Every member of the group is responsible for the quality of the group discussion.
  - Each group member will be assigned a note-taking & discussion role. These roles will rotate within the group, so that everyone has a chance to assume each role.
- 1. Discussion Leader:** You are responsible for discovering the key elements of the assigned reading and developing analytical questions to ask your group members about the reading. You are responsible for leading the group discussion. Your notes are this list of questions regarding the reading. **Things to consider while you read:**
    - What did the text make you think about?
    - What were the main ideas of the reading?
    - What were the essential people, events, and ideas in the reading?
    - What is the historical significance of the topic of the reading?
    - What questions should you ask to help the group comprehend the primary sources?
  - 2. Vocabulary Detective:** You are responsible for teaching your group the vocabulary found in the reading. While you read the selection, you will write down a list of words that you don't understand or that you think other students in your group will have trouble understanding. Make sure you write down the page number where each word was found. Next, look up each word in a dictionary. Write down the definition of the word as it is used in the context of your text. Be prepared to use each word in an original sentence, and to explain its meaning in your text. You should pronounce each word correctly.
  - 3. Polisher:** Your job is to identify the most important passages in the reading selection, and lead your group members in a discussion of the passages. As you read, select 4-6 passages (@ one paragraph each) from the reading to read aloud to the group. The passages should be interesting, confusing, or important. Your notes should include why you selected these passages, your thoughts about the passages, and 1-2 questions to ask the group about each passage. You should practice reading the passages aloud, so that you read them with depth & feeling.
  - 4. Linker: [If there are only 4 students in the group, this role will be left out.]** Your job is to connect the current reading assignment with previous readings, the outside world, and your knowledge of the time period. As you read, write your questions and connections down in your notes. Be sure to note pages, where needed to facilitate your sharing your ideas. **Things to consider while you read:**
    - What links can you make between the text and the time period, previous readings, lessons, current events, your life?
    - What is the most interesting link that you come up with?
    - What questions do you have about how the text relates to the topic or time period?
  - 5. Summarizer:** Your job is to create a graphic organizer that summarizes the main points of the reading. You need to make your organizer easy for the rest of the group to see as you explain it to them. **Things to consider as you read:**
    - What are the most important people, events, & ideas in the reading?
    - Why are they so important?
    - How do the primary sources relate to the secondary reading?
    - What questions would you see on an exam over this reading?
    - What is the big idea of this reading selection?

Reading Pod Role:	Your Name:
Reading Selection:	Author:
	Pages:
Topics, Questions, & Ideas for Group Discussion:	Your Notes:
Great Ideas from Group Discussion:	

Topics, Questions, & Ideas for Group Discussion

Your Notes:

Great Ideas from Group Discussion:

Summarize what your group discussed today:

Reading Selection:		Author:
		Pages:
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Group 3</b>
Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective
Polisher:	Polisher:	Polisher:
Linker:	Linker:	Linker:
Summarizer:	Summarizer:	Summarizer:
<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Group 6</b>
Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective
Polisher:	Polisher:	Polisher:
Linker:	Linker:	Linker:
Summarizer:	Summarizer:	Summarizer:

Reading Selection:		Author:
		Pages:
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Group 3</b>
Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective
Polisher:	Polisher:	Polisher:
Linker:	Linker:	Linker:
Summarizer:	Summarizer:	Summarizer:
<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Group 6</b>
Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective
Polisher:	Polisher:	Polisher:
Linker:	Linker:	Linker:
Summarizer:	Summarizer:	Summarizer:

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		Pages:
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Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective	Vocabulary Detective
Polisher:	Polisher:	Polisher:
Linker:	Linker:	Linker:
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<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Group 5</b>	<b>Group 6</b>
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Leader:	Leader:	Leader:
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