



Bk: Skills Card

Reader: _____ Room: _____

Comprehension

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

Literature

- Using specific details from the text, describe in depth:
 - a major character.
 - a minor character.
 - the narrator (1st or 3rd person).
 - the setting (time, place, historical era).
 - a key event.
- Retell the key events of the plot in chronological sequence.
- What is the theme of the text? How do you know?
- What other things have you read with a similar theme? How does this compare?
- Identify an example of figurative language (e.g., simile or metaphor). Describe its meaning and effect.
- What form (genre) of literature is this? How do you know? Describe its basic structural elements.

Informational Text

- Tell the author's main idea in one sentence.
- List the key facts and ideas that support the author's main idea.
- Summarize the information presented. Tell exactly what happened and why. Use specific information from the text.
- What do you think is your author's opinion or perspective on this material? How is it different from yours?
- How did the author organize the information (e.g., chronological order, compare/contrast, pro/con, cause/effect, problem/solution, exposition)?
- Was this a firsthand or secondhand account? How do you know?
- Explain one of the graphic features in the text (charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, maps, tables) and describe how the information adds to the rest of the text.

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.

Range of Reading

- Complete a chapter book each week.
- Get hooked on a series or author and go on a reading binge.
- Read for an hour a day, including 30 minutes at home without anyone reminding you.
- Read biography, contemporary fiction, traditional tales, poetry, drama, science, and history.
- Read silently, faster than you can talk, but with good understanding.



Bk: Academic Vocabulary

Be able to define and give examples of the following

Literature

structural elements	prose	traditional literature	contemporary fiction
character traits	verse	mythology	historical fiction
major	meter	quest	science fiction
minor	cast	good vs. evil	biography
attributes	stage directions	hero tale	autobiography
motivations	version	story line	graphic novel
turning point	visual element	prediction	summarize
perspective	visualize	retell	describe

Informational Text

text structure	problem/solution	firsthand account	essential
chronological order	chronology	secondhand account	nonessential
compare/contrast	comparison	speculate	specific
pro/con	position	conclude	general
sequential order	persuasive	explicit	section
logical order	focus	implicit	passage

Language

figurative language	metaphor	adage	Latin
literal meaning	simile	proverb	formal English
nonliteral meaning	idiom	Greek	informal English

What words do you know that come from these Greek and Latin (number) roots?

semi	mon uni	bi	tri	quad	pent	oct	dec	cent	multi poly
1/2	1	2	3	4	5	8	10	100	many