



Reading Strategy—SUMMARIZE, EVALUATE, SYNTHESIZE Some Suggestions

Goal: To help students consider the main points of the reading by putting ideas into their own words.

Summarizing, Evaluating and Synthesizing ...

1. Takes time and practice;
2. Are central to reading comprehension;
3. Allows readers to distinguish between essential and non-essential information and concepts;
4. Require students to use specific criteria for judgment of the importance of content.
5. It is IMPORTANT...
 - To use summarizing activities to introduce or support content instruction;
 - To begin initial reading instruction with selections that are easily summarized (e.g. a few clearly delineated paragraphs in a science or history book or a succinct news article);
 - To use 'who, what, when, where' exercises to guide writing of a summary paragraph;
 - To help students improve their skills through discussion of different written summaries of the same reading;
 - To help students summarize competently before synthesizing or evaluating.

Tools for SUMMARIZING, EVALUATING and SYNTHESIZING ...

- See the **Reading and Summarizing Activity** which guides students to include evidence in support of major ideas.

Reading and Summarizing Activity

Reading _____ Page(s) _____

Student's Name _____ Date _____

| |
|--|
| Subject or Topic: |
| Thesis: |
| Quote from the text (and page where you found this): |
| In your own words |
| Supporting Evidence (and pages where you found each): |
| 1- |
| 2- |
| 3- |
| 4- |
| 5- |

Summary (in a succinct, but thorough paragraph):

Inferences you might draw (and information in the reading from which you have inferred this):

1-

2-

3-

4-

5-