

Double-Entry Reading Logs

This reading strategy may help alleviate that "I read the material, but I don't remember a thing" feeling. Double-entry reading logs can sharpen your thinking skills, help you to respond to a whole text, provide ideas for class discussion, and improve your writing fluency. Use the model on the next page. After that, a piece of notebook paper will work just as well.

STEP #1: READ a paragraph of an identifiable section. Stop then and ask yourself, "What did I just read?" **WRITE** in the left column your **UNDERSTANDING** of what you just read. Be sure to write your understanding of the section in your own words. **DRAW A LINE WITH A HI-LIGHTER WHEN YOU GO FROM ONE PARAGRAPH OR ONE SECTION TO THE NEXT.**

STEP #2: In the right column, write: (a) the things you **DON'T** understand (b) the questions you have (c) any opinions you have (d) any vocabulary words that are confusing or that you don't understand.

STEP #3: Discussion. This may be done with the whole class or in small groups. Groups can select questions and write them on an overhead transparency to share with the whole class. Vocabulary words may also be listed and shared.

STEP #4: On a separate sheet of paper, list everything you would like to remember from a reading. What do you think is important to remember from the selection? What was particularly interesting?

STEP #5: The next day (or for homework), write a summary of everything you learned from the material you read.



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