

Sentence Starters for Reader Response

Tapping Prior Knowledge:

I already know that...
This reminds me of...
This relates to...

Asking Questions:

I wonder why...
What if...
How come...
How is it possible that...

Predicting:

I'll bet that...
I think...
If ____, then ...

Visualizing:

I can picture...
In my mind I see...
If this were a movie...

Making Connections:

This reminds me of...
I experienced this once when...
I can relate to this to other readings because...
The argument here is similar to ____ because...
Another example of ____ is...

Adopting an Alignment:

The character I most identify with is...
The idea I find most provocative is...
I reject this author's view because...

Forming Interpretations:

What this means to me is...
I think this represents...
The idea I'm getting is...
One question that this text answers is...
One question that this text addresses is...

Monitoring:

I lost track of everything except...
I need to reread the part where...
I know I'm on the right track because...
A term or idea that was unclear to me was...

Revising Meaning:

At first I thought ____, but now I...
My latest thought about this is...
I'm getting a different picture here because...

Analyzing the Author's Craft:

A golden line for me is...
This word/phrase stands out for me because...
I like how the author uses ____ to show...

Reflecting and Relating:

So, the big idea is...
A conclusion that I'm drawing is...
This is relevant to my life because...
This author is trying to make me (see, feel, know, do) ...
It makes a difference that this text was written because...

Evaluating:

I like/don't like ____ because...
This could be more effective if...
The most important message here is...
One big difference between this and ____ is...

Developed by Marcie Wolfe at the Institute for Literacy Studies with input from WAC faculty.

Sources:

New York City Writing Project, "Monitoring Our Reading." NY: Lehman College, 2000.
C.B. Olson, The Reading/Writing Connection. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Allyn & Bacon, 2002.
WAC Faculty, Lehman College, Bronx, NY, 2005.