

Strategy: Paraphrase Passport

A reading, listening and speaking activity used to increase comprehension

Purpose: Paraphrase Passport provides a structure for reading, processing and restating written text.

Skills Addressed:

1. Focused Reading-Students have a clear purpose for reading.
2. Oral Fluency-Students read several passages of text aloud.
3. Synthesizing-Students think about what they are reading by making inferences, generalizations and drawing conclusions about the text.
4. Paraphrasing-Students restate text passages expressing the meaning in their own words.
5. Focused Listening-Students listen actively to a partner as the partner restates passages of text.

Steps Involved:

1. Teacher selects a piece of text and divides the text into "manageable" sections or paragraphs.
2. Students are placed into partnerships (A & B).
3. Teacher distributes a copy of the text to each student.
4. Partners sit, in chairs, "shoulder to shoulder", facing opposite directions.
5. Both partners look at their copy of the text. Partner A reads the first paragraph *aloud* as Partner B reads along *silently*.
6. Partner B paraphrases what they heard Partner A read.
Example: "What I think I heard you saying is that..."
7. Partners exchange roles. Partner B reads the second paragraph aloud as Partner A reads along silently.
8. Partner A paraphrases what they heard Partner B read.
9. The process continues until the entire piece has been read.
10. Teacher engages the whole class in a "Grand Conversation" about the piece.

Example:

- *What connections to the text did you make? (Text-to-Self, Text-to-Text, Text-to-World)*
- *What conclusions did you draw from the piece? (Author's Point of View)*
- *What insights do you now have?*
- *What would you now like to study as a result of the reading the piece?*