



Introducing Strategy # 1

Connect to Text

You Use This Strategy ...



As Curtis looks at the newspaper, he sees an article on his old elementary school and its basketball team.

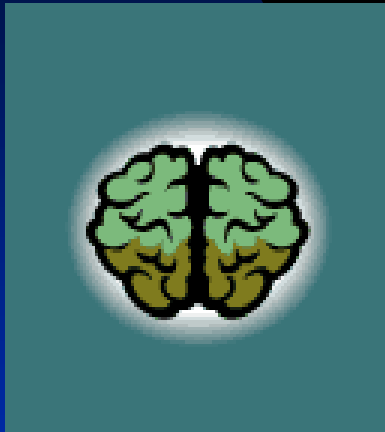
Automatically, Curtis returns in his mind to third grade when he had to guard “The Giant—” – a boy who towered over him at 5’ 5”.

You Make Connections All of the Time..



- Curtis really CAN'T stop himself. The brain is wired to connect new information with the old knowledge that is in the brain.
- It's a way of making sense of the environment.

Brain Research Tells Us That. .

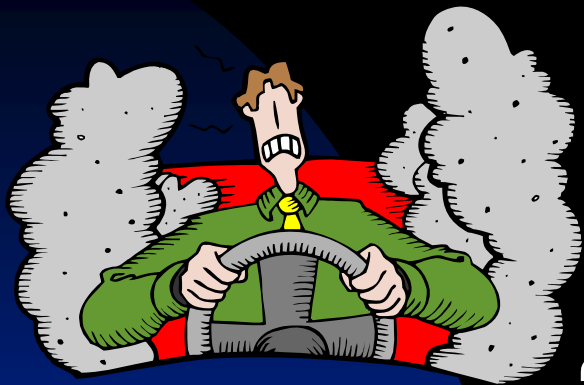


- Connecting the text to your own experience allows you to understand more.
- When you ask yourself, “What does this remind me of?” you have “opened” a mental file where new information can go.

Before You Start to Read...



- You can activate your schema or background knowledge.
- What do I already know about this subject?

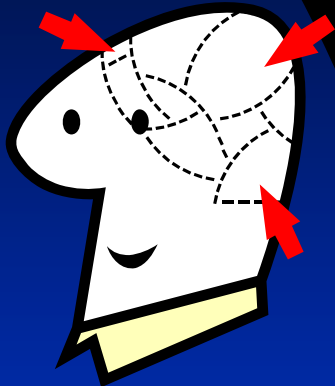


Did you know that...?

“To every text, a reader brings his/her personality, present mood, and memories, making each person’s experience of text almost as unique as a fingerprint.”

Laura Robb

Proficient learners. . .



- Connect rapidly with the text without thinking about it.
- Stick new information in their short and long term memory by hooking old information with the new.

With this strategy, you can..



- **Relate to characters.**
- **Visualize. Have a clearer picture in your head**
- **Avoid boredom.**
- **Pay attention**
- **Listen to others. What are their stories?**
- **Read actively.**

Cris Tovani

Three Ways to

“Hook Up”

with the Text...



1. Text to Self
2. Text to Text
3. Text to World

When Do I Use Strategy #1?

- ✓ ***Before Reading***
- ✓ ***During Reading***
- ✓ ***After Reading***

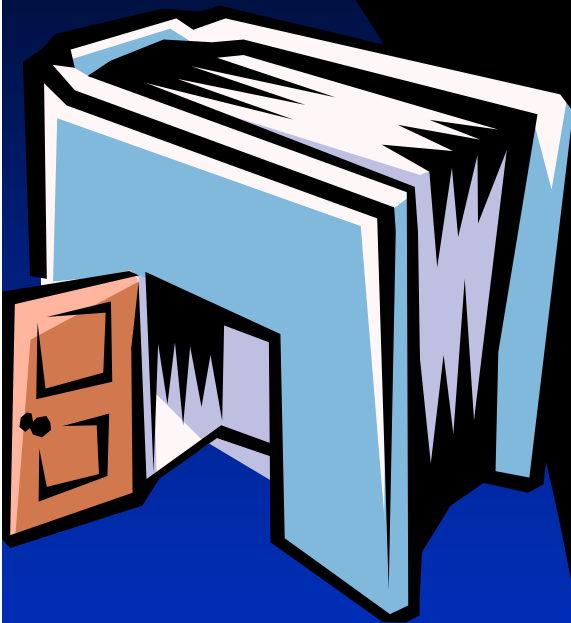


Stop Isolating Information!



Realize that your background knowledge is a storehouse of information with memories, experiences and facts. It sees a larger picture.

Open Your Brain



- **You have something in common with the text!**
- **Take all of your life experiences— even those outside of the classroom-- and bring it into the text in front of you.**

Text to Self



- **What does this text remind me of?**
- **Did I have a similar experience in any way?**
- **What did I see and hear?**
- **How did I feel?**
- **Am I bringing meaning to the words to help me read better?**

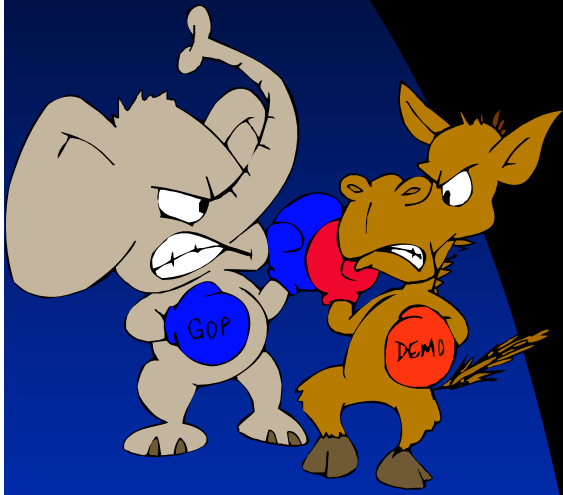
Text to Self –You try it!

Read this text:



“My brother and I were playing around, bopping each other with pillows, when one slipped from my brother’s grasp and smashed the glass coffee table!”

That Reminds Me....



- ✓ Did I ever fight with a relative?
- ✓ Did we ever break an object?
- ✓ What was it?
- ✓ How did it happen?
- ✓ How did an adult react?

Stay Focused!

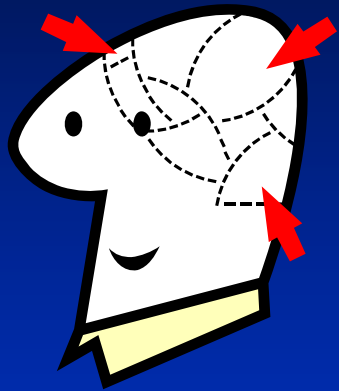


You might want to say, “I have a brother,” and end your connection with that statement.

BUT...

Be more specific and relate your experience of *fighting with your brother* and also *breaking something*.

Be a Thoughtful Reader



Remember, some connections are more relevant or helpful than others. Ask, “Does this connection help me understand the text?”



Text to Text

- What connections can you make with a book, article, picture or movie that you have read or seen?
- Is the information similar or different from what you would expect?
- How does this connection help you understand the new material you are reading?

You Already Know So Much!

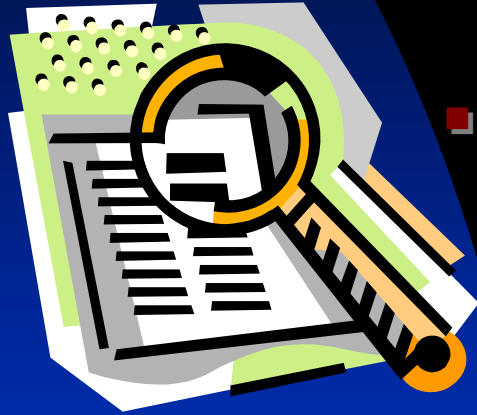


In a fiction story:

- What literary elements would you expect to find? Example: setting, characters
- What dialogue would you expect?
- What problems would be likely?

You Already Know So Much!

In a nonfiction story:



- What text forms would it have? Example: table of contents, glossary, bold-faced words, graphs, tables, chapter summary
- What terms would I expect to find?
- How could the information be organized? Time-order, cause-effect

Connect with this ...



- What story does this lion remind you of?
- Did you think of the movie, *The Lion King*?
- Did you think of Kipling's *The Jungle Boy*?
- Is that lion similar or different to the main character of your book?

Text to Text

Think of books you've read as you read the following text...

The wizard looked up at the stars. Surely, the lunar eclipse was a bad omen!

He must tell the king quickly before the marriage ceremony began.



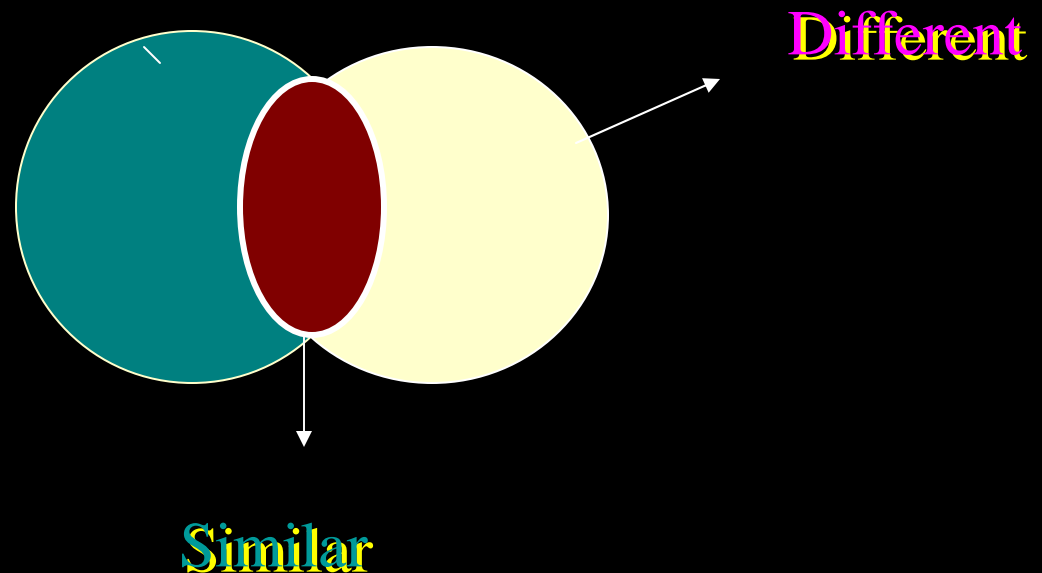
Text to Text- You try it!



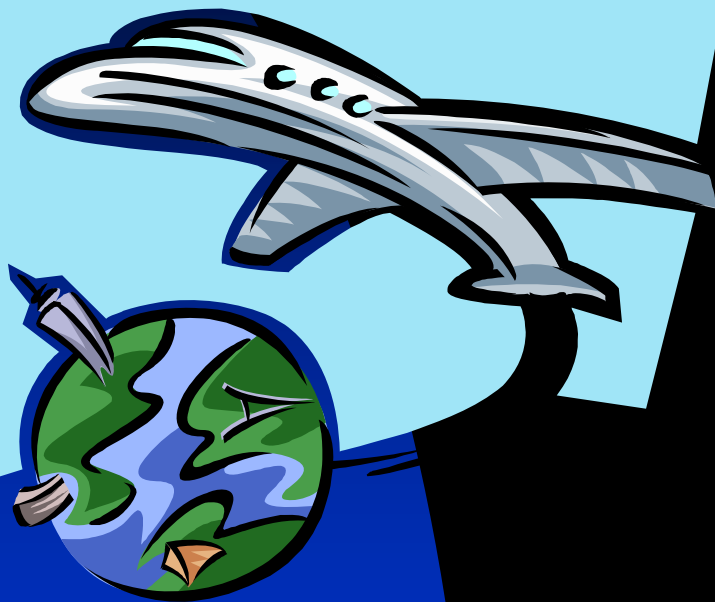
- *Is this fiction or nonfiction?*
- *What type of story (genre) is this likely to be?*
- *What events are likely to happen?*
- *What other texts does this remind you of?*
- *Have you read a book about a wizard and astronomy?*

Comparisons Are Natural

- Use Venn diagrams to see how the stories are similar and different from what you know.



Text to World



- **What specific facts do you know about this subject?**
- **Make a web.**
- **Begin a KWL+ chart.**

Text to World



You may have read it or heard about it in a class, at home, in a newspaper on television, or on the Internet.

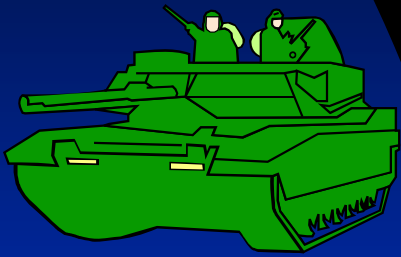
Connect with this ...



“Unlike Iraq, which most experts agreed was five to seven years away from developing its own nuclear weapons, there is broad agreement that North Korea is only months away.”

Klurfield-Newsday

What Do I Know?



- ✓ President Bush was concerned about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.
- ✓ North Korea has been a security threat when it announced its intentions to do nuclear testing.
- ✓ United States dropped nuclear bombs in Japan in World War II.



Dig Deeper...

- ✓ The dictator Kim Jong Il threatened to turn old fuel rods into weapons-grade plutonium.
- ✓ The world realizes that the risk of more nuclear weapons affects everyone.
- ✓ If North Korea has nuclear devices, it could sell the weapons to terrorists.

As You Read....



Don't be shy:

Connect with the
text.

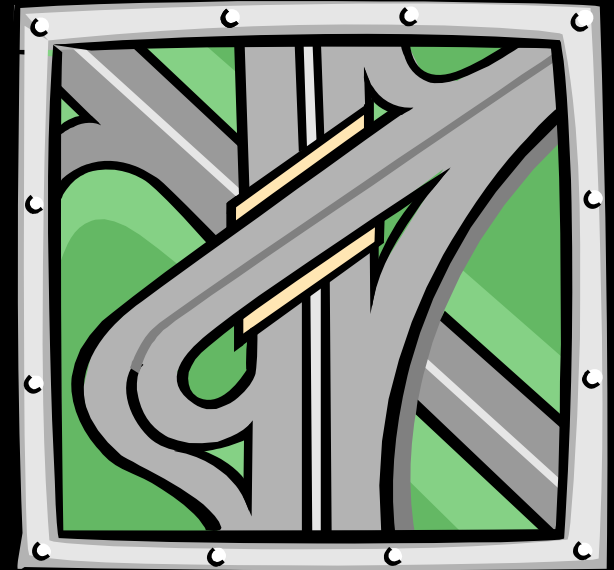
Copy quotes and
make notes.

“This reminds me
when....”

Connect to Text Strategy #1



Text to Self
Text to Text
Text to World



Be a strategic reader!!!