

Engaging Activities to Expand Analysis and Interpretation Competence

This list is intended to inspire creative thinking by students. They can choose a task that they apply to a current text.

1. Advertisement for a book or a genre
2. Autobiography (fictional but realistic) or a character
3. “Before and After” portrait of a character representing changes
4. Biography of a character or real person, with illustrations
5. Cause, effect, indirect effects diagram
6. Debate
7. Dialogue (add to a story or historical event)
8. Diary of a character
9. Draw the setting
10. Exhibit about a time period/context
11. Figurative language list with illustrations
12. Graphic organizers with icons instead of or in addition to words
13. Hats for characters that communicate their traits
14. Illustrations for poems or stories
15. Journal that a character might have written
16. Letter—from a character to another, from you to the writer, from ... to ...
17. “Map” a story
18. Nonfiction reader’s guide
19. Novel reader’s guide
20. Poem about or “by” a character or to communicate theme
21. Poet’s Toolkit—technique list with examples
22. Questions based on a reading
23. Resume of a character
24. Song based on a story
25. Story Reader’s Guide—how to read a story
26. Story Writer’s Guide—how to write a story
27. Symbol for a character or a theme
28. Timeline for a story—with pictures showing significant events
29. Unpoem—restate a poem in a paragraph
30. Venn diagram to compare and contrast literature or nonfiction
31. Web diagram to represent a theme—including symbols or drawings
32. Write the next part of the story