

Making Connections to Text

Cross-Curricular Focus: Thinking Skills



You read all the time. Sometimes you read just for fun. Other times you read for schoolwork. No matter what you are reading, what you read has meaning. You can **connect** to what you read.

Making connections is important. It's giving your brain a place to store what you read. Your brain is like a file box. The new information is kept in a safe place. You can think about it later. When you want to use the information, it's there in your brain. The more connections you make, the better. If you have a lot of connections your brain can work faster. If you have many ways to think about something, the information will be easier to find.

There are different ways to connect as you read. One kind of connection is **self-to-text**. This is when you realize something you read in a story has happened to you in your own life. Usually, this kind of connection comes with the emotions you felt at that time. It may make you feel happy, afraid, or sad. Another kind of connection is **text-to-text**. This is when reading a story reminds you about a story you read before. The last kind of connection is **text-to-world**. It reminds you of something you have seen happen to someone you know or have seen in the news.

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) Why is it important to connect to the text when you read?

2) How do connections make it easier for your brain to find information? _____

3) What is a self-to-text connection?

4) What is a text-to-text connection?

5) What is a text-to world connection?

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Name: Key

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

Wording of answers may vary.

1) Why is it important to connect to the text when you read?

It gives your brain a place to store the information.

2) How do connections make it easier for your brain to find information? **Connections give your brain more ways to think about things.**

3) What is a self-to-text connection?

when what you read reminds you of something that happened to you

4) What is a text-to-text connection?

when what you read reminds you of something else you read

5) What is a text-to world connection?

when what your read reminds you of something that happened to someone else you know or something you saw in the news.