

Pre-Discussion Journal:

- Write a brief summary of your story.
- Do you have any questions about your story? Things you did not understand?
- What is the main idea of your story?
- Whose point of view is the story told from? One of the character's? A narrator? Does this help your understanding of the story to hear it from that person's point of view, or would it have been better from someone else's?
- Is your story believable? Why or why not?
- Did you enjoy the story? What parts did you like? What parts did you not like?
- If you were the author, what would you have written different? Why?
- Prepare your "job" for the week - i.e. if you are the connector, make connections, if you are the vocab person, look for the unfamiliar words (any words you think might not be familiar to someone in your group, even if you might know what they are)

Post-Discussion Journal:

- How did your discussion go today? Did the conversation flow freely? Did it lag? Did you stay on topics relevant to the text? What was one thing that your group did well today? What was one thing you could improve on?
- Critique your performance. What was one contribution that you made to the discussion today?
- Critique your leader. Did they do a good job keeping the conversation on track? Did they come prepared with questions to ask in case you ran out of things to discuss?
- Critique the others. Did each person come prepared? Had everyone read the assigned reading? Did each person contribute?
- What is your job for next week?