## 1. Sequencer

Write a summary sentence of each chapter you read on the back: Where, who, what, and what questions the chapter is trying to answer (What happened to the character's father? What does it mean to be poor? Who made a wrong judgment about someone?) Then, BEFORE your group meets, rewrite the summary statements on note cards or pieces of paper. When your group meets, you will give them the note cards and watch your group put them in the correct sequence (order). After they have the correct order, ask each group member to make a claim about the most important event or moment in that section of the book. Discuss this.

> SUMMARIES

Chapter $\qquad$
Where does this chapter take place?

| Who is in this chapter? |
| :--- |
| What happens? |
| What questions does this chapter try to answer? |
|  |
| Chapter |
| Who is in in this chapter? |
| What happens? |

## 2. Read-aloud Master

Get sticky notes! As you read, look for passages from the text that are getting at some big question that the book is trying to ask/answer: What does it mean to be a lower class? How do people misjudge others? Is who we are defined by where we are born? What does it meant to name a group of people?

On the sticky note, write what is basically happening at this part of the book and why you want to bring it to the group.

When your group meets, read the BEST three (3) passages aloud to the group. Discuss each one. Ask them to decide what the author is trying to say about these issues. Allow your group members to share their thoughts first. Then share what you wrote.

Use this book mark to write notes from your discussion.

Passage 1, page number: $\qquad$ Notes from the group discussion (who said what)?
$\qquad$

## 3. Word Watcher

Get sticky notes. Your job is to find and define vocabulary words from the chapters. As you read, choose words that you think are interesting, confusing, reflect the themes or issues in the book, or new to you. Look for at least 2 words from each chapter. Use sticky notes to mark those words as you read.

BEFORE your group meets, choose 4 words. Write each word, the page number where the word is found along with the dictionary definition of the word below. Use another page if needed.

When you meet as a group, you will read the sentences to your group. Then, ask your group what they think is the meaning or importance of that word in the book- characters, conflict,
stereotyping, prejudice, class, setting, time period, etc. Why did the author choose that word in that place? So, be sure to choose words that can be a part of a discussion about author's word choices.

1. Word $\qquad$ Page \# $\qquad$ Dictionary definition:

Group's response as to how the word conveys or expresses meaning about some story element (character, theme, conflict, setting, time period):
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
2. Word _____ Page \#___ Dictionary definition:
$\qquad$
$\square$
$\square$
$\qquad$

Chapter
Where does this chapter take place?


Passage 2, page number:
Notes from the group discussion (who said what)?


Passage 3, page number:
Notes from the group discussion (who said what)?


Group's response as to how the word conveys or expresses meaning about some story element (character, theme, conflict, setting, time period):


Dictionary definition:

Group's response as to how the word conveys or expresses meaning about some story element (character, theme, conflict, setting, time period)
$\qquad$

## 4. Discussion Director

Get sticky notes. As you read, look for aha moments (when the character realizes something, words of the wiser (wise advice), again and again (images or words that come up over and over), big questions about life (questions the character is asking about why things happen). Try for 2 per chapter (or more). BEFORE your group meets, create 4 thoughtful questions for your group to answer orally. Write one from each category with a page number after so that people can easily find the page when you discuss.

Literal Questions (The words used to make up the question are often the same words that are in the answer):
Describe in your own words ___
What happened when $\qquad$ -
What are the characters doing to solve the problem of


1. YOUR QUESTION for the group:

## *Group's Responses: write on another page

Inferential Questions. You have to think and search for the answer):
What does the advice on page $\qquad$ mean $\qquad$ What might this aha moment mean for the character's future? Choose the most important words of the wiser advice from page ( $\qquad$ ) and (__)
What did the character discover or realize on page ( _) and what might this mean for him/her?
What is the difference between how $\qquad$ responded and responded?
Compare the two groups in this book to the two groups on Tree Girl.
2. YOUR QUESTION for the group:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

Group's Responses (wrote on a piece of paper)

## 5. Illustrator

For each chapter draw a sketch of a moment you think is the most important for the book --and by most important, consider how the event impacts other characters in positive or negative ways, adds more conflict, or resolves conflict. Use sticky notes to mark the parts .

BEFORE your group meets, get some computer paper and draw one scene the size of the paper from your selected sticky notes. You can draw more, too.

When your group meets, do not tell what the drawing is. Let them guess and talk about it first and observe them. Then you can tell about it. Have your group title the picture. With your group, write a brief description telling the significance of the picture on the reverse side of the illustration. Your description should explain something that can't be seen by looking at the picture. Do not just describe the picture.

Chapter $\qquad$ Page $\qquad$
Quick Sketch:

## 6. Literature Circle Role: Advice Columnist

Get sticky notes: Choose a character. As you read, gather evidence about that character's life, family, background, friends, problems about what he/she thinks about himself, about what other think about him, etc. Put sticky notes into the book where you make discoveries.

Name:
Background (family, history, experience, events from the past):

## Adjectives:

## Appearance:

$\qquad$

How he/she thinks:

How he/she reacts to others:

How others react to him/her:

Biggest dilemma/problem:

Interpretive Questions The answer won't be found on the printed page, but the information to answer the question is there):
Why did the author include the image/word ____again and again?
What was the author's purpose when he had the character give advice about $\qquad$ (__)
What will happen when
How did the character $\qquad$ 's action on page _impact other characters?
3. YOUR QUESTION for the group:
$\qquad$
*Group's Responses: write on another page
My Own Thoughts. The question is asking for your own thoughts about something in the story. It can be creative or open-ended and there is no right or wrong answer, but the answer should be supported by the text and your personal experiences and beliefs.

If you were another character, how would you step into the dialogue on page $\qquad$ to fix the conflict?
Have you ever experienced or caused something like what happened on page $\qquad$ ?
4. YOUR QUESTION for the group:
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
*Group's Responses: write on another page
Other questions you want to ask:
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Chapter Page $\qquad$ Quick Sketch

| Chapter | Page |
| :---: | :---: |
| Quick Sketch: |  |
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| Chapter | Page |
| Quick Sketch: |  |
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| Chapter | Page | Quick Sketch:

Get more paper as needed.

Pretend you are that character and write a letter to "Dear Abby" explaining your problem. Be sure to give accurate background knowledge of the situation for Abby and a complete description of the conflict - try to sound like the character paying attention to any common phrases and tone. Don't forget to sign your letter as the character! (Research friendly letters and who Abby is if needed.)
Dear Dr. Phil,
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## In need of your help,

## (character's name)

When your group meets, share the letter by reading it aloud. On a piece of paper and with your group , write "Dear Abby's" letter back to your character sounding like an adviser or counselor. Include ideas on how the character can solve the conflict. Turn this in!

