

Summarizer

Your Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Summarizer: Your job is to prepare a brief summary of today's reading. Your group discussion will start with your 1-2 minute statement that covers the key points, main highlights, and general idea of today's reading assignment.

Summary: (Use 'First...' 'Next...' & 'Last...')

Key Points:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Connections: What did today's reading remind you of?

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Discussion Director *

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Discussion Director: Your job is to develop a list of questions that your group might want to discuss about this part of the book. Your task is to help people talk over the big ideas in the reading and share their reactions....not just yes or no questions. Think of questions that are open ended. Usually the best discussion questions come from your own thoughts, feelings, and concerns as you read. You can list them below during or after your reading. You may also use some of the general questions below to develop topics for your group. (Don't forget the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW questions.)

Possible discussion questions or topics for today

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Sample Questions

- What was going through your mind while you read this?
- How did you feel while reading this part of the book?
- What was discussed in this section of the book?
- Can someone summarize briefly?
- Did today's reading remind you of any real-life experiences?
- What questions did you have when you finished this section?
- Did anything in this section of the book surprise you?
- What are the one or two most important ideas?
- What are some things you think will be talked about next?

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Bridge Builder

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Bridge Builder: Your job is to find a connection between the book and our world. What is similar, and what is distinctively different. Look at your own life, happenings at school or in the community, stories in the news... What are some similarities or differences that this book brings to mind. You might also see connections between this book and other writings on the same topic or other writings by the same author. Whatever the reading connects *you* with is worth sharing!
(Think **TEXT TO TEXT, TEXT TO SELF, TEXT TO WORLD...**)

Some connections I found between this reading and other people, places, events, authors:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Vocabulary Enricher *

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Vocabulary Enricher: Your job is to be on the lookout for a few especially important words in today's reading. If you find words that are new, puzzling or unfamiliar, mark them while you are reading and then later jot down their definition, either from a dictionary or from some other source. You may also run across familiar words that stand out in the reading – words that are repeated a lot, are used in an unusual way, or provide a key to the meaning of the text. Pay special attention to words that specific to the Middle Ages. Mark these special words, and be ready to point them out to the group. When your group meets, help members find and discuss these words. You will be in charge of adding to our class word wall, with the word, definition and you may even include an illustration!

Page No. & Paragraph	Word	Definition

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Travel Tracer

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Travel Tracer: You are reading a book in which characters move around often and the scene changes, so it is important for everyone in your group to know *where* and *when* things are happening; how the setting may have changed. Your job is to **track carefully where & when the action takes place** during the reading. Describe each setting in detail, either in words or with an action map or diagram you can show to your group. A graphic organizer is provided, or make your own. Be sure to give the page locations where the scene is described. Your help may be needed to create a class timeline to record the times & places as they occur in the story. .

Describe or sketch the setting

- **where & when today's action begins**

Page where it is described _____

- **where & when today's key events happen**

Page where it is described _____

- **where & when today's events end**

Page where it is described _____

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Investigator

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Investigator: Your job is to dig up some **background information** on any topic related to your book. Some tidbit of information that will enrich the reading of the novel. Choose one of the following. Once one of the following investigations has been done by a group member, you must choose from the remaining investigations. Place a check by ones that have been done.

- the geography, weather, culture, or history of the book's setting
- information about the author – her/his life and other works
- information about the Middle Ages portrayed in the book
- pictures, objects, or materials that illustrate elements of the book
- the history and derivation of words or names used in the book

This is *not* a formal research report. The idea is to find bits of information or material that helps your group better understand the book. Investigate something that really interests you – something that struck you as puzzling or curious while you were reading.

Sources for information

- the introduction, preface, or “about the author” section of the book
- library books and magazines
- online computer search or encyclopedia
- interviews with people who know the topic (Mr. Holman)
- other novels, nonfiction, or textbooks you've read

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Character Collector *

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Character Collector: Your job is to keep track of the different characters as they develop throughout the novel. Identify some of the distinctive traits of the character; **What do they look like (appearance)? What do they say (speech)? What do they think (attitude)? What are their motives? What are they trying to accomplish? What is their background? How do they change and evolve as the story progresses?** Include a telling **quote** by or about the character. You can add more You may choose to include an illustration.

Character:	Traits:	Quote (w/ pg#):	

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____

Illustrator

Name _____ / _____
(group's name)

Book _____

Meeting Date _____ Assignment Pages _____ to _____

Illustrator: Readers make pictures in their minds as they read. Now you can share some of those images and visions. On a separate sheet of paper draw (or xerox) some kind of picture related to the reading.

It can be a sketch, cartoon, diagram, flow chart, stick figure scene, or map.... Any kind of drawing or graphic will work. It can be a picture of something discussed specifically in the book, or something that you were reminded you of, as you read. Label your picture.

Topic to be carried over to the next session: _____

Assignment for next session: Pages _____ to _____