|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| JANUARY 4  No School | 5 | 6   Notes/Introduction? | 7  Ch. 1 + Read/Think aloud (p. 3-5)  Hwk: Sticky note Ch 2 (p. 5-11) | 8   Read Ch. 3 (p.11-15)   Hwk: Ch 4 using two column notes (p. 15-26) |
| 11  Read Ch. 5 (p. 27-37)  Hwk: Ch 6 using a reader’s journal (p.37-48) | 12  BOOK TWO: Ch 1 (p. 51-57) | 13  Ch 2-3 using summaries (57-76) | 14   Ch. 4 (p. 76-82)  Hwk: Ch 5 using mind-mapping (p. 82-88) | 15  Ch. 6 (p.88-100)  Hwk: Ch 7 &8 (p.100-114) |
| 18 No School | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| FEBURARY 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8  Test | 9  Movie | 10  Movie | 11  Movie | 12  No School |
| 15  No School | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |

Mrs. Muldoon Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English 9A *A Tale of Two Cities*  
 A pathway to discovering reading strategies that work!  
  
**Objectives:  
 +** Students will evaluate a variety of reading strategies in order to discover their preferred method   
 to comprehending difficult texts.  
 + Students will recognize various motifs through *A Tale of Two Cities* and examine how Dickens   
 uses these to develop themes.  
 + Students will analyze Dickens’ sentence fluency, style, and diction and copy his sentence style in   
 their own writing.  **Tentative Calendar (subject to change)  
🡪** Short quizzes will be given randomly to check for understanding and for you to assess the effectiveness of your reading strategies.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8  Test | 9  Watch TOTC | 10  Watch TOTC | 11  Watch TOTC | 12  No School |
| 15  No School | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |

G**eneral Reading Strategies:**Always practice these strategies as you read to ensure comprehension and retention of the text.

Connect  
 (to self, to text, to world)  
Evaluate   
(form opinions, draw conclusions)  
Visualize   
Question   
Predict   
Summarize   
Clarify   
(re-read, look up unfamiliar words..)

**Strategy 1:** Re-Reading  
Don’t be afraid to re-read. This should be your first go-to strategy. All readers have to re-read difficult texts at some point or another. Sometimes I have to read passages 3, 4, 5, or even 6 times before I feel comfortable with the content.

**Strategy 2:** Read aloud  
Is hearing the text read aloud in class helpful? If so, find a place in your home where you can read *A Tale of Two Cities* out loud to yourself. Verbally talk through any confusion you might experience. Or, you can listen to this book read aloud on youtube. Normally this strategy works best in conjunction with another strategy.

**Strategy 3:** Sticky Notes  
Since you’re unable to write in the school’s books, sticky notes are an alternative method.  
  
**What should you sticky note?**  
+ unfamiliar words and the definition  
+ questions  
+ mark motifs, symbols  
+ mark character traits or descriptions  
+ clarify or summarize the main ideas   
+ mark beautiful writing or imagery that impresses you  
+ make connections to other texts, yourself, the world

**Strategy 4:** Two Column Notes  
Divide a notebook page down the middle.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| RIGHT | LEFT |
| - Main Ideas - Note page #s - Unfamiliar words - Characters | - Details - Explanations - Questions - Summarize - Definitions to the unfamiliar words - Character descriptions |

**Strategy 5:** Reader’s Journal  
State your feelings, thoughts, reactions, and questions about situations, ideas, actions, characters, settings, symbols, plots, themes, and any other elements in the story. Write about what you like and dislike, what seems confusing or unusual to you. Tell what you think something means. Make predictions about what might happen later. Relate your personal experiences that connect with the plot, characters, or setting. You can even draw pictures of the characters or important scenes. (Similar to the two-column notes, but this strategy allows more freedom in the structure and organization of your information.)

**Strategy 6:** Sparknotes… the right way!  
Using Sparknotes (or any online resources) to supplement your reading is a great idea. (The problem emerges when you use these online resources *instead* of reading the text.) Try reading the summary and analysis of the chapter before you read, marking the main ideas. Then, as you read the actual chapter, you have a self-created reading guide of what important main ideas you are trying to identify in the text. If you finish the chapter and can’t recall reading the main ideas…. Then you need to go back and reread!   
  
You may benefit from reading the summaries before or after reading the real chapter… or both!

#### From: Sparknotes.com Summary: Chapter 1: Five Years Later

It is now 1780. Tellson’s Bank in London prides itself on being “very small, very dark, very ugly, very incommodious.” Were it more welcoming, the bank’s partners believe, it would lose its status as a respectable business. It is located by Temple Bar, the spot where, until recently, the government displayed the heads of executed criminals. The narrator explains that at this time, “death was a recipe much in vogue,” used against all manner of criminals, from forgers to horse thieves to counterfeiters.

Jerry Cruncher, employed by Tellson’s as a runner and messenger, wakes up in his small apartment, located in an unsavory London neighborhood. He begins the day by yelling at his wife for “praying against” him; he throws his muddy boot at her. Around nine o’clock, Cruncher and his young son camp outside Tellson’s Bank, where they await the bankers’ instructions. When an indoor messenger calls for a porter, Cruncher takes off to do the job. As young Jerry sits alone, he wonders why his father’s fingers always have rust on them.

**Strategy 7:** Mind-mapping  
For the artsy and visual learners of the bunch, creating a mind map to organize the main ideas and extra details may be a helpful way to process the chapters. I would recommend creating one mind map per chapter. These can include pictures; they can be organized by color-coded information; they can take the form of a basic graphic organizer, or you may be more creative. Entirely up to you.

