

## Quaker Read Activity Protocol

### What is a Quaker Read?

Quaker read is a meeting of students to share responses to a piece of literature – each student shares a particular sentence/paragraph where the student was able to make a text-to-self /text-to-text/text-to-world connection, whatever is directed by the teacher.

**This activity is appropriate for ELL students that are at Intermediate (I) and Advanced (A) Proficiency Levels.**

**This strategy is excellent in helping ELL students to develop the following skills:**

- Rereading Text
- Skimming and Scanning
- Recalling Details
- Listening carefully and attentively

**Possible language functions:**

- Giving an opinion or personal response
- Giving an explanation

**How do you implement this strategy with English Language Learners (ELLs)?**

You can do this activity either whole class or in a small group – if appropriate, you can form a large circle. Allow the ELL students to reread and identify a particular section that holds a special meaning for them. At random, the ELL students stand (one at a time) and read aloud from their passages

ELL students can also make text-to- self, text-to-text connections or text-to-world connections through personal reactions: This allows them to express themselves in a risk-free environment. To ensure that all students will be successful in this communicative activity, you can provide the ELL students a language frame/sentence starter to get them to respond and to fully participate. The following are some examples of what you could provide to ELL students in a pocket chart/smart board to spawn a good Quaker Read Session:

This text makes me think of a time when\_\_\_\_\_.

This text reminds me of (title of other book) because\_\_\_\_\_.

This text reminds me of what is currently happening \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other ways to ‘tweak’ the Quaker Read Activity:**

### Quaker Share

A Quaker Share can be set up where all the participants/students read the same text/piece of literature and then respond to it by writing in their professional journals/Writer’s Notebook. At random, participants/students then volunteer to read aloud from their writing, just as the Quakers tend to do in a meeting. What is critical here is protocol: While one participant/student reads, the other participants/students listen actively.

ELLs in the early stages of writing can illustrate their thoughts in a Writer’s Notebook/Journal and share (orally) the illustrations (through an overhead projector/Smart Board document projector) in lieu of reading.