

Reciprocal Notes

Name

Date

Topic

Class/
Subject

Directions: Reciprocal Notes help you identify important details and events, and also determine why they are important or what they mean. Your notes should fall into three categories: What it is; what it means; and why you think that. Use the sample "Deep Prompts" (or create your own) to help you answer the "Deep Questions" you pose.

Surface Questions/Observations

- What is it?
- What did it do?
- What did you see?
- Where did it happen?
- Who was involved?
- When did it happen?

Deep Questions/Details

- What does it mean?
- Why did it do that?
- What are the consequences?
- What will happen next?
- What caused this?
- What are the implications?

Support Your Thinking

- What examples can you provide?
- Why do you think this is true?
- How do you know this?

Sample Questions

- English: What do Antonio and Ultima do together?
- History: What did Caesar Chavez do for farmworkers?
- Science: What happened when you heated it up?
- Math: What is the relationship between A and B?
- Health: How many teenagers smoke?
- Art: What colors does the artist use in this painting?

Deep Prompts

- This is important because it shows...
- This proves that...
- This means that...
- The consequence of this is...
- This caused X to happen because...
- It acted this way because...
- This suggests that...

Down here (and on the back) you should connect, reflect, summarize, or explain your Reciprocal Notes above.