



## Close Reading Activity

**Directions:** Complete this close reading activity throughout your reading of the novel. Using the Types of Passages chart as a guide, find examples of each passage type in your novel. Note the exact passage and the page number on which it is located. In a few well developed sentences, explain how or why that passage is important to the overall story.

**READING TIP:** As a way to minimally interrupt the flow of your reading, use sticky notes or a pencil to quickly mark passages for your review and use at the end of each reading session.

QUOTE FROM THE NOVEL AND PAGE NUMBER	IMPORTANCE
VIVID MEMORY MOMENT	REASON WHY I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
NOTABLE CHANGE IN A CHARACTER	REASON WHY I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>





<b>QUOTE FROM THE NOVEL AND PAGE NUMBER</b>	<b>IMPORTANCE</b>
TOUGH QUESTION CHARACTER	REASON WHY I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

## TYPES OF CLOSE READING PASSAGES

TYPE OF PASSAGE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE FROM <u>OUT OF MY MIND</u>
Contrast & Contradiction	When a character says or does something that is opposite of what you would expect from him or her OR when a story event unfolds in a way that you did not imagine it would.	<i>"I look at the ugly statue, and I start to giggle. Then I crack up. Finally, I roll with laughter. My hand jerks out and hits the trophy- I'm not sure if it was an accident or not- and it falls to the floor, breaking into several pieces... 'I don't want it! I finally type'"</i> (pg. 292).
Aha Moment	When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out. This moment in some way leads to changes in the character's actions. Signal phrases such as: "Suddenly I understood...", "In an instant I saw...", or "I now knew..." often appear before an Aha Moment.	<i>"When I think about it, I realize I have never, ever said any words directly to my parents. So, I push a couple of buttons, and the machine speaks the words I've never been able to say. 'I love you'"</i> (pg. 138).
Tough Questions	When a character has a conversation with her conscience and in her mind asks herself difficult questions about a situation or decision. These questions relate to main character's struggle. The questions seem, at least for a while, not to have an answer, but by the end of the story are most often answered or solved.	<i>"Once I started school, however, I discovered I had a much bigger problem than just falling out of my chair. I needed words. How was I supposed to learn anything if I couldn't talk? How was I supposed to answer questions? Or ask questions"</i> (pg. 45)?
Words of the Wiser	When a character (probably older and wiser) offers serious advice to the main character. While the character may not act upon the advice or fully understand it, the advice affects or helps the main character by the end of the story.	<i>"They think my brain is messed up like the rest of me.' I felt like crying. 'Then we'll just have to study and show them they're wrong!' Catherine said, a hint of defiance edging her voice"</i> (pg 154).
Memory Moment	When the author interrupts what's happening in the story to show the main character remembering something from his or her life. Sometimes the clue as to the importance of this memory moment is very obvious; other times it is not clear until the end of the story.	<i>"From the time I was really little – maybe just a few months old – words were like sweet, liquid gifts, and I drank them like lemonade. I could almost taste them. They made my jumbled thoughts and feelings have substance. My parents have always blanketed me with conversation. They chattered and babbled. They verbalized and vocalized. My father sang to me. My mother whispered her strength in my ear"</i> (pg. 1).



