

## Structure of a Strong Reader's Response

### Get to the point

Use your stop-and-jot starter, or steal words from the question if there is one.

Just because you stick your stop and jot on the page does not mean that your response starts with that sentence.

Assume that the reader will never see that stop-and-jot.

If you are a detailed jotter, you may include the exact sentence from the jot in your reader's response paragraph.

**Always give your readers a brief but detailed context. This will help them get a better understanding of the book and your thoughts. Remember that you don't want to REWRITE the whole chapter. Only a little bit is needed for the reader to make sense of your stop-and-jot.**

- Just some things to consider –

- Is the jot about a particular character? Introduce him/her/it with details .
- Are you talking about the relationship between characters? Tell the reader about this relationship.
- Are you reacting to an event? Are you making a prediction? Are you inferring about a situation? Then, write about the event that got you thinking all this.
- Is there anything we need to know about the setting?

### Include Text Evidence

- In chapter \_\_,
- On page \_\_,
- Summarize what is going on and then quote a line from the text that supports your point. Always include page/chapter numbers.

### Elaborate

- Remember that you need to explain how your evidence relates to your main point.
- How does the text evidence help prove your point?
- Your transition chart can come in handy here.

### Include a closing

- A few questions to help you with your closing...
  - What do you hope for?
  - What does this mean for the rest of the book?
  - What do you think will happen next?
  - What is the author's purpose in this section (the author wants readers to learn/know/ think about)
  - Why does this thought matter?

Don't leave the reader mumbling "so what!?" at the end of your response.