

Admit Slips: Upon entering the classroom, students write on an assigned topic.

Examples: "Who was Gandhi and why should we care?"; "Describe the way sound waves travel."

Crystal Ball: Students describe what they think class will be about, what might happen next in the novel they're reading, or the next step in a science lab.

Found Poems: Students reread a piece of text, either something they have written or something published, and find key phrases. They arrange these into a poem structure without adding any new words.

Awards: Students recommend someone or something for an award that the teacher has created such as "Most helpful molecule" or "Most insidious leader."

Yesterday's News: Students summarize the information presented the day before in a film, lecture, discussion, or reading.

Take a Stand: Students discuss their opinions about a controversial topic.

Examples: "Is murder ever justified?"; "What's worth fighting for?"

Letters: Students write letters to others, including elected officials, family members, friends, or people who have made a difference.

Example: Students may respond to the prompt, "Write to Oppenheimer asking him to explain his position today."

Exit Slips: As a closure activity, students write on an assigned prompt.

Example: "The three best things I learned today are . . ."

Adapted from *Improving adolescent literacy: Strategies at work* (pp. 142–143), by D. Fisher and N. Frey, 2004, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Merrill/Prentice Hall.

content learning he or she expects from students and that the prompt be constructed accordingly. For example, if a 3rd grade teacher wanted to know if students understood the life cycle of insects, he or she might use the following RAFT prompt:

R: Butterfly

A: Scientist

F: Journal entry

T: My experience with complete metamorphosis

A 6th grade social studies teacher who wanted to know if students understood the life and times of Marco Polo and the importance of the Silk Road might use the following RAFT prompt:

R: Marco Polo

A: Potential recruits