

Independent Reading

Directions: Remember to record responses to **research reading in the front** of your independent reading journal and responses to **choice reading in the back**. Try to choose a different prompt each time.

Record any new vocabulary in your vocabulary log. Remember, academic vocabulary is recorded in the front, and domain-specific vocabulary (words about the topic) is recorded in the back. Mark vocabulary found during independent reading with a symbol—for example, an asterisk (*).

Record:

- Date
- Title and author of your reading book
- Pages you have read
- Prompt
- Response

Example:

Date: 11/03/2017

Book Title and Author: *The Hope Chest* by Karen Schwabach

Pages Read: pages 18–30

Prompt: What theme did you notice in the pages you read?

Response: One of the themes evident in this chapter is inequality is injustice. Mrs. Renwick is against women having equal rights—for example, she doesn't agree that women can be anything they want to be and should instead marry and have children.

Independent Reading Prompts

Consider using the following independent reading prompts*:

- What is the main idea of the text? What are some of the key details, and how do they support the main idea?
- What do the illustrations (photographs, maps) tell you? How do they help you understand the words?
- What questions do you now have after reading? What would you like to learn more about? Why?
- What are the most important facts you learned from reading?
- What is the most interesting fact you learned today? Why?
- How does what you read today connect to something you have learned in the lessons?
- Choose one new word from your reading today and analyze it on a vocabulary square:

Definition in your own words	Synonyms (words that mean the same)
Words with the same affix or root	Sketch

*Some of the prompts will not be appropriate for the text students are reading. Invite students to choose a prompt that works for the text they have just read.