

HIGHER ORDER THINKING WITH Y A NOVELS

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INTRODUCTION

Here is a book which deals with some of the best in young adult literature from a PRODUCER rather than a CONSUMER approach. In HIGHER ORDER THINKING WITH YOUNG ADULT NOVELS, students will make decisions, solve problems and evaluate situations as encountered in favorite junior and YA novels. In addition, students will use creative and productive thinking in developing new ideas and in building a solid working vocabulary.

Activities in this book have been used with junior and senior high school students and refined their feedback and suggestions.

Contributors to this book are practicing teachers and media specialists who have brought together some of the best that is known about the teaching/learning process today with some of the best in literature for young adult readers.

Special thanks are given to Nancy Black for her unit on THE SUPERNATURAL; to Gloria Levine for her units on QUEST LITERATURE and CONFLICTS IN VALUES and to Judy Druse for her bibliography on THE CLASSICS AND YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE and her compilation of Young Adult Book Review Sources.

Help is what this book is intended to be: help with a variety of ideas and activities for stretching young minds and for creating reading as a lifestyle.

Thirty copies of student activity pages made be made by the purchaser of this book in any one school year for educational purposes only. Reproduction of pages in this book is prohibited for more than one class of students during a school year.

SECTION ONE

READING AND HIGHER LEVEL THINKING

Skills Included In This Section

Fluency
Flexibility
Originality
Elaboration

Planning
Forecasting
Decision-Making
Problem Solving
Evaluation

Associating Ideas
Context Clues
Concept Development
Judging Sources
Analyzing Data
Analyzing Fallacies
Extrapolating
Communication Skills

BOOKS ALIVE!

STRETCHING MINDS WITH BOOKS

JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH

Oral Warm-up Activities for
Productive and Critical Thinking

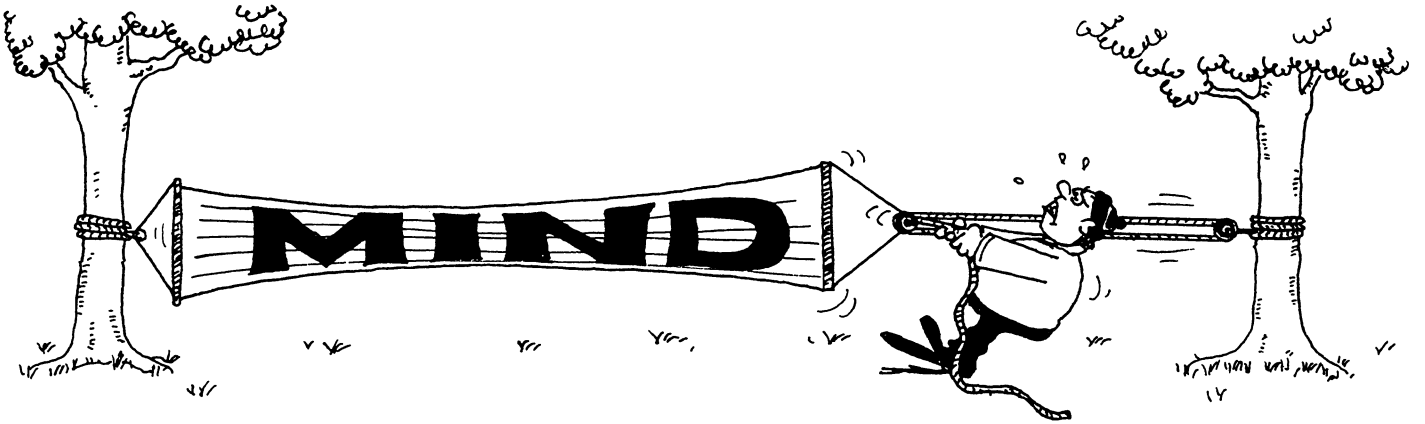
Introduction

Practice makes perfect! Students need oral practice in productive and critical thinking activities before attempting to apply higher level thinking processes to independent reading and study. The processes and activities which follow are based on Quest literature and are designed to provide this oral practice.

FLUENCY

- A. Productive Thinking is thinking of as many solutions as possible to a given problem. The kinds of productive thinking are:
1. Fluency is the ability to produce unusually common responses to a given situation. The emphasis is on quantity rather than quality.
 - a. The first responses are usually common responses.
 - b. During a session of brainstorming, the best ideas come in the last 25% of the ideas given.
 - c. Teachers should try to keep the flow going by:
 - (1) looking for different ideas
 - (2) encouraging "hitchhiking" (getting an idea from someone else)
 - (3) deferring judgment - this is especially difficult for teachers, but the flow will not continue if the student waits to see if the idea is liked.
 - d. Hypnotism has shown that there are many, many more ideas waiting in the subconscious.
 - e. An accepting atmosphere must be provided.
 - f. Writing answers can limit students' ability.
 - g. One way of achieving fluency is to have the students work in pairs, having first one student talk on a particular subject and then switch to the other student and let him/her continue on the same subject.
 - h. Sample warm-ups
 - (1) Think of all the quests you have ever heard described. List as many possible objects of quests as you can.
 - (2) Next to each goal, list as many obstacles to obtaining each as you can.
 - (3) Think about the words and phrases we use to describe people. List as many traits as you can which a "good" character might have.
 - (4) Think of all the traits which an "evil" character might possess.

MIND STRETCHERS



Exercises to warm up thinking processes! How many answers can you give to each of the mind stretchers below:

NAME AS MANY ITEMS AS YOU CAN THAT ARE:

1. as important as the written word
2. as impossible to open as a can without a can opener
3. as useless as eyeglasses without lenses
4. as complex as the human mind
5. as intricate as a spider web
6. as wise as it is dangerous to perform
7. as often found together as a lock and a key
8. as obese as a whale
9. as unusual as a mother with ten sets of twins
10. as insignificant as a grain of sand
11. as frequently used as an Easter basket
12. as much a pair as shoes and socks
13. as strong as they are light in weight
14. as many sided as a pentagon
15. as bright as a spotlight