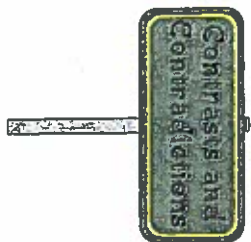


## STOP Notice & Note

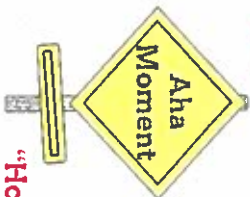


When you're reading and a character says or does something that's opposite (contradicts) what you expect them to do... you should stop and ask yourself:

**“Why is the character doing that?”**

The answer could help you make a prediction or make an inference about the plot and conflict.

## STOP Notice & Note



When you're reading and suddenly a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out... you should stop and ask yourself:

**“How might this change things?”**

□ If the character figured out a problem, you probably just learned the conflict.

□ If the character understood a life lesson, you probably just learned the theme.

## STOP Notice & Note

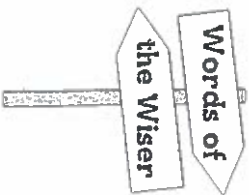


When you're reading and the character asks himself a really difficult question... you should stop and ask yourself:

**“What does this question make me wonder about?”**

The answer will tell you about the conflict and might give you ideas about what will happen later in the story.

## STOP Notice & Note



When you're reading and a character (who's probably older and wiser) takes the main character aside and gives serious advice... you should stop and ask yourself:

**“What's the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?”**

Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found a theme for the story.

## STOP Notice & Note



When you're reading and the author interrupts the action to flashback to the past and tell you a memory... you should ask yourself:

**“Why might this memory be important?”**

The answers will tell you about the theme, conflict, or might foreshadow what will happen later in the story.

## STOP Notice & Note



When you're reading and you notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over again... you should ask yourself:

**“Why does this keep showing up again and again?”**

The answers will tell you about the theme and conflict, or they might foreshadow what will happen later.