Cognitive Strategies are thinking tools. These are things that readers do as they read to think deeply about what they are reading. As you read, practice using these strategies to help you become a better reader. When you respond to your reading (write about what you think while you read), use the sentence starters below to help you. Try as many strategies as you can! The better you get at regularly using all 16, the better your reading comprehension will be. Don’t worry if you don’t use them all in one story - we don’t use every spice in every recipe!

- PLAN AND SET GOALS: My goal while reading is... I will... do that by...
- TAP PRIOR KNOWLEDGE: I already know that... because...
- QUESTION: I wonder... because... (Who/what/Where/When/Why)
- PREDICT: I think... will happen because...
- VISUALIZE: The text says... which makes me picture... because...
- MAKE A CONNECTION: ...reminds me of... because... (text-to-self, text-to-world, text-to-text)
- SUMMARIZE: The important information from this part is... because...
- ADOPT AN ALIGNMENT: I can identify with... because...
- INFER: The text says... I know that means... because...
- FORM AN INTERPRETATION: To me, this means... because...
- CLARIFY: I’m confused about... because...
- REVISE MEANING: At first I thought... but now I think... because...
- ANALYZE AUTHOR’S CRAFT: I like the way the author... because...
- MAKE A CONNECTION: ...reminds me of... because... (text-to-self, text-to-world, text-to-text)
- SUMMARIZE: The important information from this part is... because...
- ADOPT AN ALIGNMENT: I can identify with... because...
- EVALUATE: I think that... is good/bad because...

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