

Reflective Freewriting

Goal: To hold a student's thinking after reading

Reflective "freewriting" after reading can help with critical thinking skills while refining writing skills. It allows a student to think as they write, letting go of grammar, spelling, punctuation, style or rules.

Directions: After a reading, reflect on what you have just read by writing without stopping for 5 minutes. Do not be concerned with grammar, punctuation, spelling or style. Don't reread what you have already written. Rather, if stuck on what to write next, just continue to write anything that comes to mind or rewrite the last word until another idea comes to mind. You should incorporate your thoughts and not summarize or retell the story.

The results are sometimes worth using further in a formal piece of writing, and sometimes just useful to solidify thinking.

Volunteers share some of their written responses.