

Reading Strategies_The Golden Keys

Decisiveness is a good skill to develop in life. Whether it be deciding what to do, deciding what to purchase, or deciding what to say, making timely judgments and decisions is important. Just like in life, it's important in literature to discern the most important pieces of information and commit them to memory. To do this, we can implement what is called the Golden Keys strategy.

The Golden Keys strategy is used to get a reader to quickly identify key concepts, sentences, and vocabulary in a text. In a word, to use the Golden Keys strategy is to pay specific attention to the most important parts of a text.

When reading, look for key parts of the text – snippets of information that pertain directly to the story or message. You're looking for sentences and symbolism that indicate foreshadowing, events in the story that drive the plot, and changes in the story that are of great significance to the characters.

Ideally, you'll gather between three and five Golden Keys per chapter or passage that you read. You may choose to write these down in a reading journal or just highlight the text if you are able to do so. By identifying Golden Keys in every chapter and committing them to memory, you'll find that the text is much easier to keep track with and understand. Aren't Golden Keys just the bees knees?
