

Recounting Literary Classics

Reading classical text can be a challenge. The best way to understand this complex text is to frequently recount the events of each page and chapter.

Vocabulary

Recounting	To retell the important events of a story.
Gist	The main idea of what a passage is about.
Context	The situation that set up the setting or events in a book.
Historical	Something that occurred in the past

The BEST way to recount

Break the chapter into important topics

While you are reading, you have to decide if information you are reading about is important. If it is, write that topic down so that you remember it.

For example: Chapter 1 Peter Pan
Important topics are,
Darling family, Nana, Mrs. Darling,
Neverland, and Peter Pan.

Explain the chapter into important topics

When you have all of the important topics listed, explain the gist of each topic. If you can't remember anything about the topic, go back into the text.

For example: Topic - Nana
Nana is a large dog that takes care of Wendy and her brothers. She walks them to school and gets their clothes ready.

Sequence the events in a meaningful order

After you have explained the gist of each topic, make sure that your topics are in order or you will get confused.



Tell someone about it

Once you have finished all of the above you must tell someone. It can be a classmate, a teacher, a parent, a reading journal, or even your reflection in a mirror!

