

Column Notes

Common Core State Standards

Reading: Literature and Informational Texts

– Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Grade Level

K-12

Purpose

Use with students to support comprehension: integrate ideas across and between texts

When to Use

During Reading
After Reading

Grouping

Whole Group
Small Group
Partners
Individuals

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

COLUMN NOTES is a graphic organizer that allows students to analyze and synthesize information from one or more sources. Column notes provide enough structure for students to record important information but enough flexibility so students can use them to take notes on information from any type of text in any format. Educators should choose the format for the column notes that is most appropriate for the needs of their classroom and should check students' notes and provide feedback to students regularly. Students can use words and/or illustrations to record their ideas. Students synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes. Column notes is used during and after reading, listening to, or viewing texts.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

- Identify the format for the column notes that is most appropriate for the task and the classroom.
- Once you decide on the format, establish expectations:
 1. When will students use the column notes?
 2. What do exemplar column notes look like?
 3. When will you view the column notes and provide students feedback?
- Establish the purpose of the column notes.
- Either model for the students how to set up the column notes or provide students with the column notes; scaffold as needed.
- Model how to complete the column notes; scaffold as needed.
 - Write the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening at the top of the page.
 - Divide the paper into columns and label the columns.
 - Record information from the texts in the appropriate columns.
 - Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Teacher observation
- Conferring
- Student self-reflection
- Graphic organizer post-reading as assessment

RESEARCH

- Dexter, D. D., & Hughes, C. (2011). Graphic organizers and students with learning disabilities: A meta-analysis. *Learning Disability Quarterly*, 34, 51-72.
- Kim, A., Vaughn, S., Wanzek, J., & Wei, S. (2008). Graphic organizers and their effects on the reading comprehension of students with LD: A synthesis of research. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 37(2), 105-118.
- Little, D. C., & Box, J. A. (2011). The use of a specific schema theory strategy-semantic mapping to facilitate vocabulary development and comprehension for at-risk reader. *Reading Improvement*, 48(1), 24-31.

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Label the columns. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

[illegible]

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Label the columns. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Ideas from the Text
(Cite text and page numbers)

Reaction

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Main Idea
(Cite text and page numbers)

Supporting Details

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Opinion: Isolate statements of opinion, bias, or limited point of view
(Cite text and page numbers)

Proof
(Cite text and page numbers)

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Hypothesis: Identify
predictions or theories
(Cite text and page numbers)

Proof: Evaluate the evidence offered for each proof
(Cite text and page numbers)

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Problem: Identify the nature, causes, and effects of a problem
(Cite text and page numbers)

Solution
(Cite text and page numbers)

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Process: Describe a process
(Cite text and page numbers)

Steps: Outline the specific steps
(Cite text and page numbers)

Summary

Name: _____

Column Notes

Identify the purpose for reading, viewing, or listening. Record information from the text(s) in the appropriate columns. Synthesize the main idea of the notes by writing a one-sentence summary at the end of the notes.

Purpose for Reading, Viewing, or Listening

Main Idea (Cite text and page numbers)	Source 1 (Cite text and page numbers)	Source 2 (Cite text and page numbers)	Conclusions: Record your own opinions, observations, thoughts, and experiences

Summary