Definitions:

1. Evidence—specific information that supports an idea or opinion
2. Character—a person or other being that creates action in a story
3. Setting—the time and place in which a literary text occurs

Lesson Notes:

1. Good discussions must have certain rules to encourage openness, sharing, and respect. They are also productive.
2. Rules include:
3. Listen actively to other.
4. Do not interrupt someone who is speaking.
5. Ask for an explanation or clarification if you are confused.
6. Speak respectfully to others.
7. Challenge or critique ideas, not people.
8. Support your comments with evidence.
9. Have your book or text with you during discussions.
10. Allow all group members a chance to speak.
11. Make discussion goals to keep discussion on track.
12. Prepare deadlines by which everyone must gather and share information.
13. Different roles:
14. Facilitator: guides discussion by keeping the group on topic and making sure everyone has a chance to participate
15. Recorder: records the group members who are part of the discussion as well as the key points, answers, or ideas discussed
16. Presenter: presents the group’s findings or ideas to other people or groups
17. Timekeeper: keeps track of time and informs the group of how much time is left to meet the discussion goals
18. Ask different questions in discussions:
19. When you’re confused:
20. “I am confused by what you said about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Could you tell more about that idea?”
21. “I didn’t understand what you meant when you said \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Can you explain that in a different way?”
22. “I’m not sure how the text supports what you said about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Is there evidence that supports that idea?”
23. When appraising someone:
24. “I thought what you said about \_\_\_\_\_\_ was really interesting. Can you talk more about that?”
25. “I really like your interpretation of the text. What evidence in the text supports this idea?”
26. Your comment about \_\_\_\_\_ makes me think about \_\_\_\_\_. What do you think?”
27. “You said \_\_\_\_. Do you suppose \_\_\_\_\_?”