**SOCRATIC CIRCLE DISCUSSION**

“The Socratic seminar is a formal discussion, based on a text, in which the leader asks open-ended questions.  Within the context of the discussion, students listen closely to the comments of others, thinking critically for themselves, and articulate their own thoughts and their responses to the thoughts of others.  They learn to work cooperatively and to question intelligently and civilly.” -Elfie Israel

We will be using our own form of Socratic Circles in order to better understand what we have been reading. In order to prepare for the discussion, you each need to reflect and take notes in the following ways.

1. **Determining Importance:** Choose events, characters, passages that you think are integral to the narrative in some way. Note down why you chose the idea as well as the page number.

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1. **Questioning:** It is imperative to engage and ask questions. Good questions will be open-ended and will lead to a discussion. Why…, how.., what if.., I wonder…, what would you do…. etc.

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1. **Making Connections:** Reflect on what you have read and try to make connections to yourself and/or the greater world. What does it remind you of, make you think of, etc.?

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1. **Author’s craft:** Consider how the author is creating mood, suspense, characters, imagery, etc. Choose passages that are meaningful or powerful to you. Note down why you choose the passage as well as the page number.

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