



Reimagining Book Clubs in a Remote Learning Environment



## TEXT CLUBS

**HOW DO WE ENSURE OUR STUDENTS HAVE A COLLABORATIVE AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT TO DISCUSS TEXTS, DESPITE THE REALITIES OF REMOTE LEARNING?**



### CONSIDER A TEXT CLUB

A “text club” considers the endless possibilities for discussion when we view everything as a text.

### REMOTE LEARNING

In remote learning, by moving away from traditional “book clubs” to implement a “text club”, a student’s learning environment, access to materials, and time equity are centered and considered in both synchronous and asynchronous work.

### WHY A TEXT CLUB?

Text clubs ensure that all students have access to some form of text with which they can work on specific literacy skills in a collaborative and social space.



## THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF TEXT CLUBS



### SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING TEXT CLUBS

Student discussion happens in real time, with the reading of texts happening during the live engagement or prior to the text club.

### ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING TEXT CLUBS

Students navigate the reading and discussing of each text on their own time. Learning takes place through online platforms without real-time interaction.

**WHAT TYPE OF TEXT DO YOU WANT STUDENTS TO ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION AROUND? HOW WILL YOU PROVIDE ACCESS TO THAT TEXT?**

### SYNCHRONOUS TEXT IDEAS

- Live Read Aloud
- Short Videos (Pixar etc)
- Excerpt from read aloud
- Audio book
- Printed out text
- Podcasts
- Infographics
- Shared screen of online texts (NewsELA, Readworks etc)



### ASYNCHRONOUS TEXT IDEAS

- Prerecorded Read Aloud
- Digital Library (ex. GetEpic, Storyonline.com)
- Excerpt from read aloud
- Audio book
- Printed out text
- Podcasts
- Infographics
- TV show, Short Videos or Movie



**WHAT DIGITAL SETTING IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE FOR THIS TYPE OF DISCUSSION? IN WHAT DIGITAL SETTING WILL STUDENTS DISCUSS THE TEXT? HOW WILL STUDENTS RESPOND TO THE TEXT?**

### SYNCHRONOUS FORMATS

- Guided Discussion or Open Discussion
- Shared text or open genre
- Zoom/GoogleMeet utilizing breakout rooms for text club discussion
- Small group Zoom/GoogleMeet



### ASYNCHRONOUS FORMATS

- Guided Discussion or Open Discussion
- Shared text or open genre
- Written Platforms
- Shared document, Padlet, Jamboard
- Spoken Platforms - FlipGrid, Screencastify, Padlet



**Synchronous Learning** allows students the ability to discuss the text in a live format. This provides teachers the ability to enter these conversations in real time so as to listen, provide feedback, or push discussions further.

**Large group:** Use this to first address the whole class with a mini-lesson and then move into small groups. Give each group a time to talk as well as listen and backchannel notes, like you would with a Fishbowl discussion in a classroom.

**Small groups:** Students take notes in a shared Google Doc for the teacher to access at a later time. Possible formats: Google Meet or Zoom Meet with Breakout Groups.

**Asynchronous Learning** allows students to connect with one another even if they are unable to meet at the same time. This format also allows the teacher to follow group work as everything is documented in a digital space.

**Mini-Lessons** can be delivered through a digital recording in Zoom, GoogleMeet, Screencastify, or Jamboard. Students can follow conversations in their own time, recording and responding to group members through the following platforms:  
Written Platforms: Screencastify, Padlet, shared GoogleDoc, Jamboard  
Spoken Platforms: FlipGrid, Screencastify, Padlet





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# TEXT CLUBS

**WHAT ARE THE FOCUS QUESTIONS THAT CAN CENTER THE WORK, REGARDLESS OF THE TEXT CHOSEN?**

**WHAT ARE THE FOCUS QUESTIONS THAT CAN CENTER THE GROUP DYNAMIC AND QUALITY OF THE DISCUSSION?**

## Text Questions

- Whose voices are most dominant?
- Whose voices does the author most center?
- Whose voices are left out?
- What shifts in your thinking did you notice from reading this text?
- How did you feel reading this text?
- Did you notice any emotions bubbling up more than others?
- What do you question in the text?
- Where might you go to find answers to these questions?
- What strikes you reading the text?
- What insights do you have reading the text?



## Collaborative Questions

- What shifts in thinking did you notice when working with your group?
- What is a perspective you heard that you had not thought about?
- What questions did you contribute to your group work?
- What was a question that a group member asked that really made you think?
- Were there any uncomfortable conversations in your group that you were able to work through? How did you do this?
- What conversation was your favorite? Why do you think this was the case?
- What did you do well during the group discussion?
- What do you still need to improve on during the group discussion?



**WHAT FEATURES OF BOOK CLUBS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHEN CREATING TEXT CLUBS?**

**WHAT BOOK CLUB FEATURES SHOULD BE ADOPTED WHEN IMPLEMENTING TEXT CLUBS?**



## During the planning stage

- The number of text clubs to form
- The use of criteria to carefully select the text(s)



## Prior to the first discussion

- The use of note taking
- Determining how much to read
- Establishing guidelines for discussion
- Establishing the role and expectation of group members and the facilitator



## During the discussion

- The use of wait time
- The use of good conversation techniques (conversation stems, building upon another's ideas)

