Literature Circle Notes: Discussion Director

Name:	Chapter:	Date:

Discussion Director: Your job is to keep the discussion going, to make sure there are not silences and gaps in the conversation.

You should come to the meeting with at least **five Think and Search/Author and You questions** to ask in case the conversation slows down. (Create template with same column headings as SSR dialectical journal entries – text entry quote, question, interpretation of what's going on so far, and answer to question.) These questions should be designed to get people in your group thinking about issues and topics in your reading. They should not be lower level "Right There" questions that just ask for facts. You are also in charge of keeping the discussion focused so things don't wander too far from the main topic, which is the book.

Sample Questions – if you can't think of what to ask…

- What were you thinking about as you read ____?
- What do you think this text/passage was about?
- What have you learned from this reading passage?
- What one question would you ask the writer if you got the chance? Why?
- What are the most important ideas/moments in this section? Why do you think they are important?
- What do you predict will happen next – and why?
- What was the most important change in this section? Why?
- Who are the most important characters and why?
- How does this passage relate to what we have learned?

Discussion Questions:	Responses to Questions:

Summary of how discussion went within group:

Literature Circle Notes: Literary Luminary

Name:	Chapter:	Date:

Literary Devices Hunter: You find passages that contain literary devices, including text passages that use figurative language Your notes should include the quotations but also why you chose them, and how the literary device affected your enjoyment, understanding, or interpretation of the story. You can either read the passage aloud yourself or ask members of your group to read notes.

Sample Questions, in case you can't think of one….

- What do you think the author meant by _____ (literary device/figurative phrase)?
- What does this passage tell you about (name of character)?
- Is there another passage that relates to this or helps you understand this one more?
- How does this passage add to the story?

Some possible literary devices to look for: (remember to see the reference sheet you received in class)

Simile Metaphor Hyperbole Personification Symbolism Verbal Irony Mood Dramatic Irony Situational Irony Idiom Dialect Internal Conflict External Conflict Tone

Literary Device/Figurative Language used in text (quote and page #):	**Possible Interpretations:**

Summary of how this discussion went within group:

Literature Circle Notes: Connection Maker

Name:	Chapter:	Date:

Connector: Your job is to connect what you are reading with what you are studying or with the world outside of the school. You can connect the story to events in your own life, news events, political events, or historical events. Another important source of connections is books you've already read. The connections should be meaningful to you and those in your group. **Sample questions for discussion.**

- What connections can you make to your own life?
- What other places, people, or time could you compare this story to?
- What other books or stories might you compare to this one?
- What other characters or authors might you compare to this one?
- What is the most interesting or important connection that comes to mind?
- How does this section relate to those that came before it?

Discussion Questions:	**Responses to Questions:**

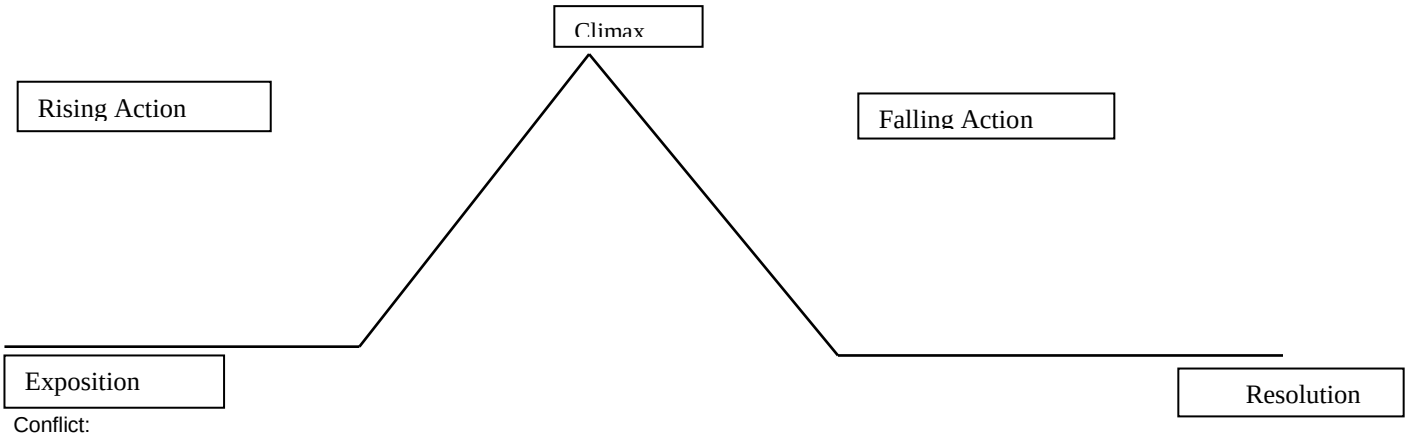
Summary of how this discussion went within group:

Literature Circle Notes: Summarizer

Name:	Chapter:	Date:

Summarizer: Your job is to write a summary covering all the important events from the assigned reading and explain why these events were significant/ important.

Complete the Plot Diagram to summarize Chapter ____.



Summary of how this part of discussion went within your group:

Literature Circle Notes: Passage Picker

Name:	Chapter:	Date:

Your role is to look for the "big idea" within the chapter. These interpretations usually center on either:

- **<u>Themes</u> – fundamental and often universal ideas explored in a literary work**
- **<u>Motifs</u> – recurring structures, contrasts, and literary devices that can help to develop and inform the text's major themes**
- **<u>Symbols</u> – objects, characters, figures, and colors used to represent abstract ideas or concepts.**

Some possible big ideas to consider: (you are welcome to discover your own)

Theme - Bridging the Gap between Rich and Poor
Resilience During Times of Hardship
Honor Among the Lawless
Conflict in Relationships and Interactions
The Role of Prejudice in Society
The Concept of Family

Motifs – Literature (references to other texts)
Eye Description and Color
Ponyboy's Loss of Consciousness
Light and Darkness

Symbols – Two Bit's Switchblade
Cars
Bob's Rings
Greaser Hair

Quotes from passages (one + per chapter) where themes/motifs/symbols were noted (Identify what it is) and page #:	Explanation and discussion of how theme/motif/symbol was used and its affect reader:

Summary of how this part of discussion went within your group: