Signposts Log

Directions: While reading the provided stories, locate at least 5 signposts that occur throughout the story. Although signposts occur in books, they can also occur in a short story as well.

Story Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **#** | **Location**  (What was happening when you found this signpost?) | **Signpost I Noticed**  (Name the signpost) | **My Notes About It**  (At least 2 complete sentences explaining it)  Make an inference about theme, characterization or why this is important to the story. |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |

**SIGNPOSTS YOU MIGHT NOTICE**

**CONTRASTS & CONTRADICTIONS**

When a character acts in a way that contradicts how he or she has acted in the past, or that contrasts how you would act, or that reveals a difference among characters, STOP and ask,

**Why is the character acting or thinking that way?**

(The answer can help you make an inference about plot and conflict.)

**AHA MOMENT**

When a character realizes, or understands, or finally figures out something, STOP and ask,

**Why might this realization be important, or**

**How might this change things?**

(If the character figured out a problem, the answer tells you about the conflict. If the character understood a life lesson, the answer tells you about the theme.)

**TOUGH QUESTIONS**

When a character asks himself or someone else a very difficult question, STOP and ask yourself,

**What does this question make me wonder about?**

(The answer can help you understand the conflict and

give you ideas about what might happen later in the story.)

**WORDS OF THE WISER**

When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the main character aside and offers serious advice, STOP and ask,

**What’s the life lesson, and**

**How might it affect the character?**

(The answer can help you make an inference about plot and conflict.

Whatever the lesson, you’ve probably found a theme for the story.)

**AGAIN AND AGAIN**

When you notice a word, phrase, idea, or situation mentioned over and over, STOP and ask yourself,

**Why does the author bring this up again and again?**

(The answer will tell you about the theme and conflict, or it may be foreshadowing.)

**MEMORY MOMENT**

When the author interrupts the flow of the story to tell you about a memory, STOP and ask yourself,

**Why might this memory be important?**

(The answer can tell you about the theme, conflict, or be foreshadowing .)