

**PURPOSE:** The strategy activates students' prior knowledge of the topic. If students are learning about the topic, select an idea related to the topic that they know (see examples below).

## Strategy 5 Instructions for Using a K-W-L-S Chart

### BEFORE READING

**What I Know:** Select topic: Something that the student knows about. For example,

- if reading about the Plague, ask what the student knows about Being Sick.
- if reading about Strikes, ask what the student knows about Standing up for Others/Self.
- if reading about Tokyo, ask what the student knows about Big Cities (NYC).

Then fill out the first column with student's answers.

**What I Want to Know:** Explain that the story/text is about, for example, people are very sick. Then ask, what do you want to know about the topic, for example, being sick with the plague?

### AFTER READING

**What I Learned:** Ask student what he/she learned.

**What I Still Want to Know:** Ask student what he/she still wants to know about the topic.

Sample			
BIG CITIES			
K: What I <b>Know</b> About "Big Cities"	W: What I <b>Want</b> to Know About "Tokyo"	L: What I <b>Learned</b>	S: What I <b>Still</b> Want to Know
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tall buildings</li> <li>Lots of people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More about the people</li> <li>Transportation</li> </ul>		

(Topic)			
K: What I <i>Know</i>	W: What I <i>Want</i> to Know About	L: What I <i>Learned</i>	S: What I <i>Still</i> Want to Know