

PURPOSE: The discussion strategy focuses students' attention to important aspects of the topic in a way that is relevant to their experiences.

Strategy 4 Instructions for Relevance Discussion

Select an important idea from the story and start the discussion with an example that students can relate to their own experiences.

A-Z Reader, Leaving Home: How would you feel if you had to move to a new country and new school?

A-Z Reader, The Drum: Why is it important to be kind?

The Legend of Damon and Pythias: What are you willing to sacrifice for your friend? Would you sacrifice your life?

Continue discussion about this big idea.

Ask student to pay attention to this big idea when they read. For example, when reading, *Leaving Home*, what happens when Desmond goes to a new school?

For additional information and application with English Learners, read the article, Lord, K. M. & Hickey, P. J. (2015). What's the point? Using relevance instructions to support comprehension. *English Journal* 104(4), 93-95. Copyright 2015 by the National Council of Teachers of English. Used with permission.