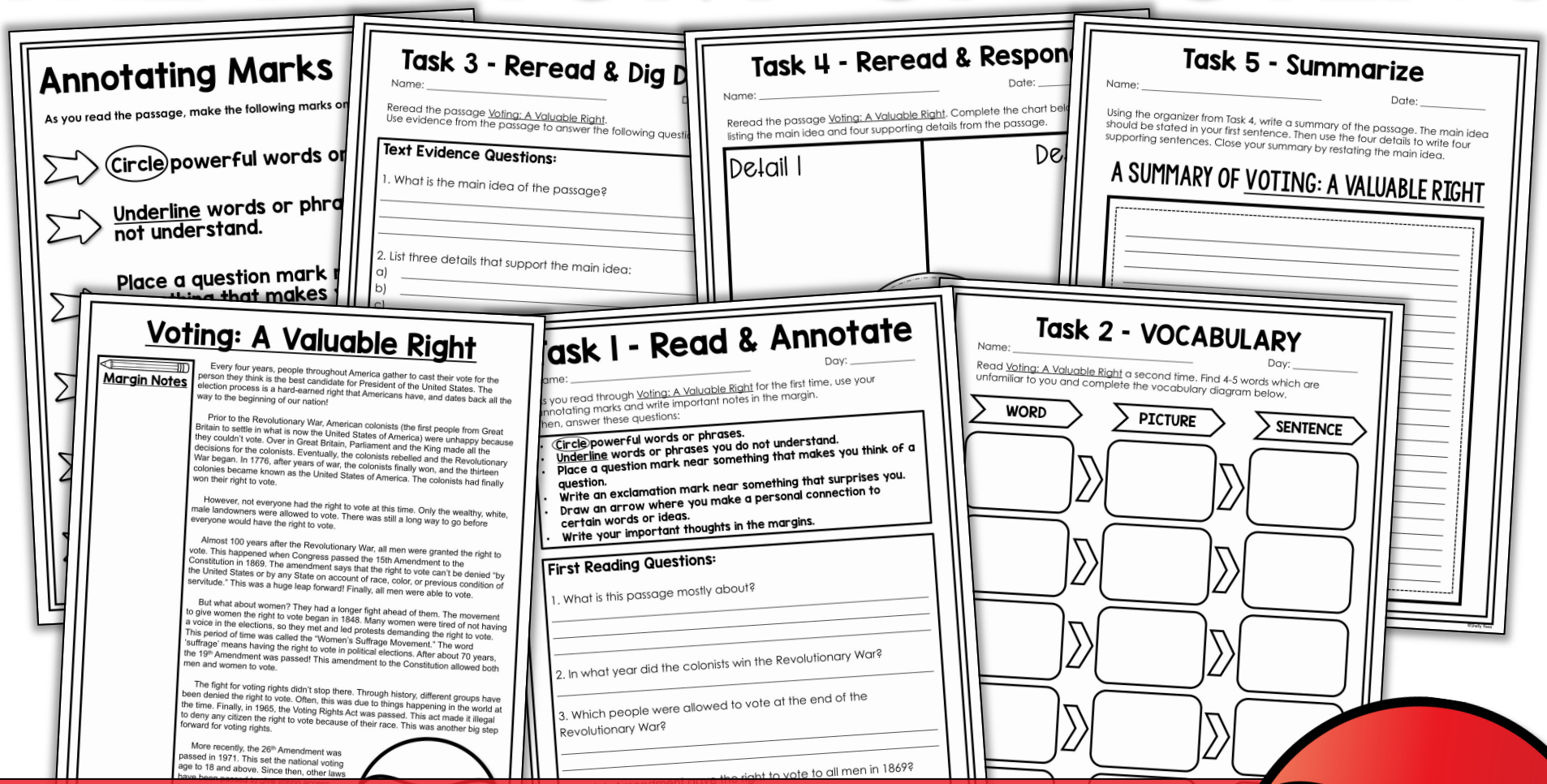
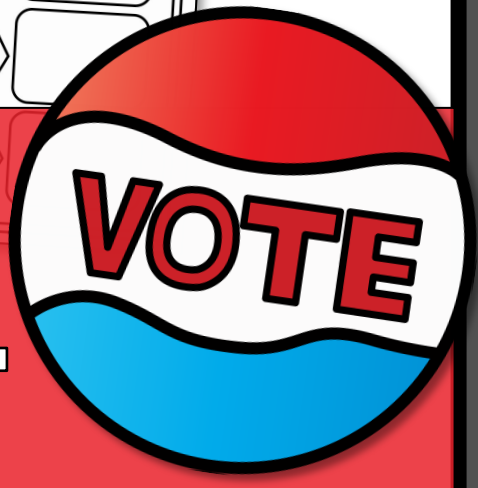
THE HISTORY OF VOTING



DIFFERENTIATED CLOSE READING UNIT



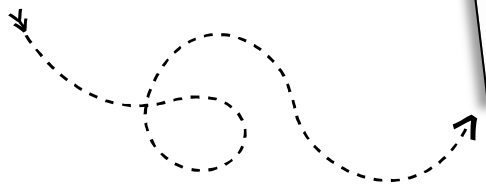
CREATED BY: SHELLY REES

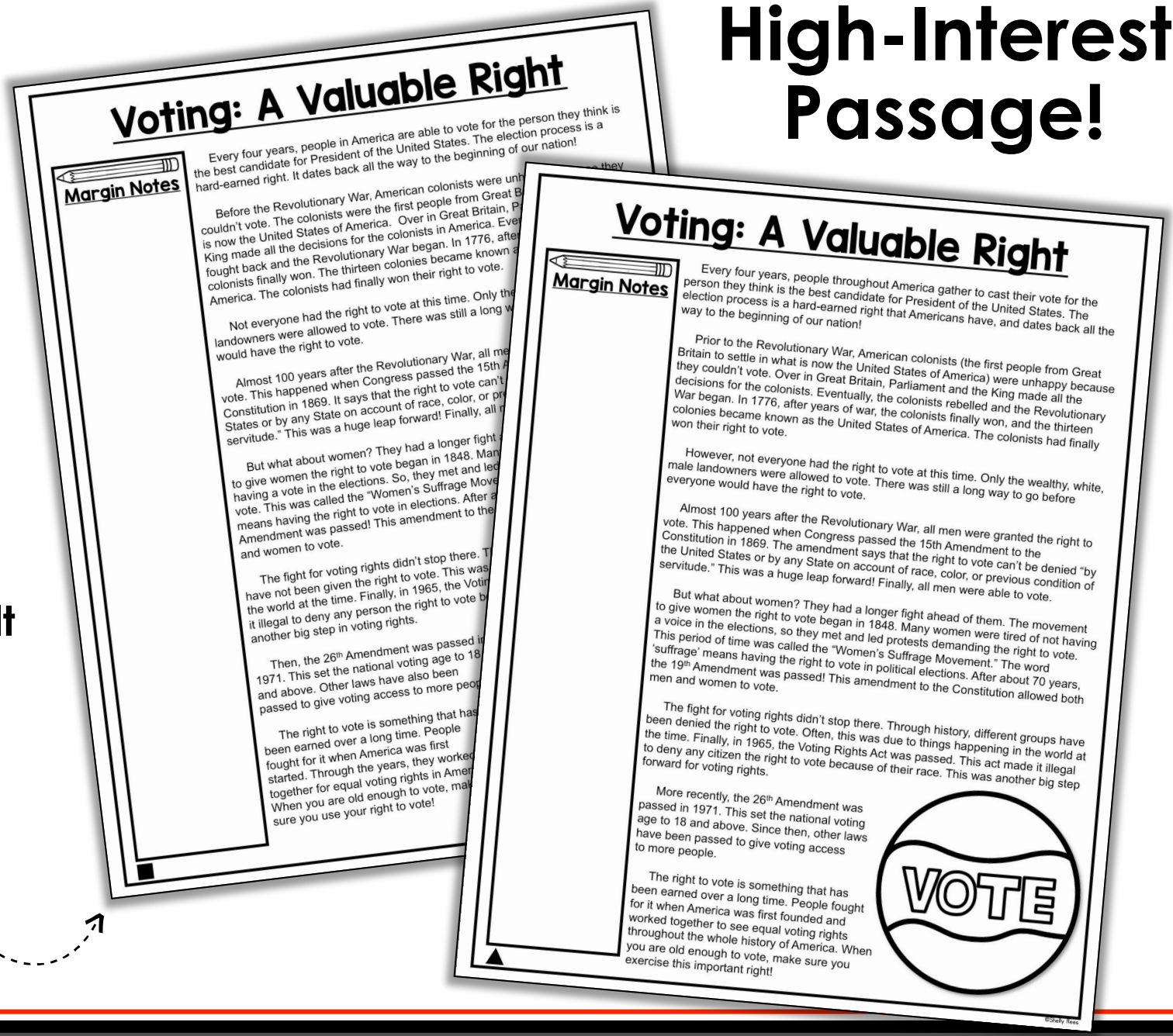
2 Different Reading Levels

High-Interest Passage!

The **easier** passage has a ■ in the bottom left corner.

The **more difficult** passage has a ▲ in the bottom left corner.





Voting: A Valuable Right

Margin Notes

Every four years, people in America are able to vote for the person they think is the best candidate for President of the United States. The election process is a hard-earned right. It dates back all the way to the beginning of our nation!

Before the Revolutionary War, American colonists were unh
couldn't vote. The colonists were the first people from Great B
is now the United States of America. Over in Great Britain, P
King made all the decisions for the colonists in America. Ever
fought back and the Revolutionary War began. In 1776, after
colonists finally won. The thirteen colonies became known a
America. The colonists had finally won their right to vote.

Not everyone had the right to vote at this time. Only the
landowners were allowed to vote. There was still a long w
would have the right to vote.

Almost 100 years after the Revolutionary War, all me
vote. This happened when Congress passed the 15th A
Constitution in 1869. It says that the right to vote can't
States or by any State on account of race, color, or pr
servitude." This was a huge leap forward! Finally, all m

But what about women? They had a longer fight
to give women the right to vote began in 1848. Man
having a vote in the elections. So, they met and led
vote. This was called the "Women's Suffrage Move
means having the right to vote in elections. After a
Amendment was passed! This amendment to the
and women to vote.

The fight for voting rights didn't stop there. T
have not been given the right to vote. This was
the world at the time. Finally, in 1965, the Votin
it illegal to deny any person the right to vote b
another big step in voting rights.

Then, the 26th Amendment was passed i
1971. This set the national voting age to 18
and above. Other laws have also been
passed to give voting access to more peop

The right to vote is something that has
been earned over a long time. People
fought for it when America was first
started. Through the years, they worked
together for equal voting rights in Amer
When you are old enough to vote, mak
sure you use your right to vote!

Voting: A Valuable Right

Margin Notes

Every four years, people throughout America gather to cast their vote for the person they think is the best candidate for President of the United States. The election process is a hard-earned right that Americans have, and dates back all the way to the beginning of our nation!

Prior to the Revolutionary War, American colonists (the first people from Great Britain to settle in what is now the United States of America) were unhappy because they couldn't vote. Over in Great Britain, Parliament and the King made all the decisions for the colonists. Eventually, the colonists rebelled and the Revolutionary War began. In 1776, after years of war, the colonists finally won, and the thirteen colonies became known as the United States of America. The colonists had finally won their right to vote.

However, not everyone had the right to vote at this time. Only the wealthy, white, male landowners were allowed to vote. There was still a long way to go before everyone would have the right to vote.

Almost 100 years after the Revolutionary War, all men were granted the right to vote. This happened when Congress passed the 15th Amendment to the Constitution in 1869. The amendment says that the right to vote can't be denied "by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." This was a huge leap forward! Finally, all men were able to vote.

But what about women? They had a longer fight ahead of them. The movement to give women the right to vote began in 1848. Many women were tired of not having a voice in the elections, so they met and led protests demanding the right to vote. This period of time was called the "Women's Suffrage Movement." The word 'suffrage' means having the right to vote in political elections. After about 70 years, the 19th Amendment was passed! This amendment to the Constitution allowed both men and women to vote.

The fight for voting rights didn't stop there. Through history, different groups have been denied the right to vote. Often, this was due to things happening in the world at the time. Finally, in 1965, the Voting Rights Act was passed. This act made it illegal to deny any citizen the right to vote because of their race. This was another big step forward for voting rights.

More recently, the 26th Amendment was passed in 1971. This set the national voting age to 18 and above. Since then, other laws have been passed to give voting access to more people.

The right to vote is something that has been earned over a long time. People fought for it when America was first founded and worked together to see equal voting rights throughout the whole history of America. When you are old enough to vote, make sure you exercise this important right!

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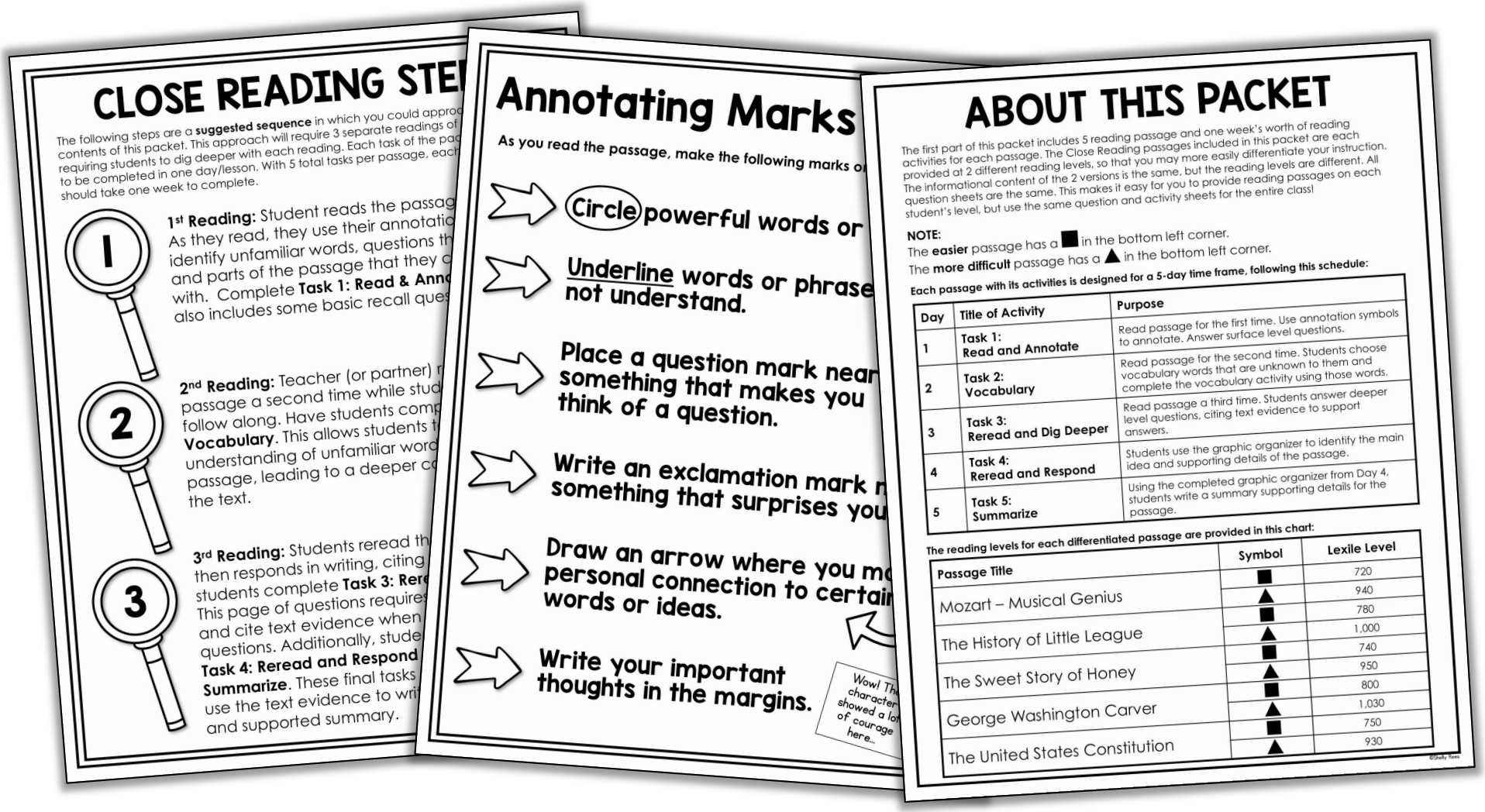
Reference Chart, Annotating Guide, Close Reading Directions



CLOSE READING STE

The following steps are a **suggested sequence** in which you could approa
contents of this packet. This approach will require 3 separate readings of
requiring students to dig deeper with each reading. Each task of the pac
to be completed in one day/lesson. With 5 total tasks per passage, each
should take one week to complete.

1

1st Reading: Student reads the passag
As they read, they use their annotatio
identify unfamiliar words, questions th
and parts of the passage that they c
with. Complete **Task 1: Read & Anno**
also includes some basic recall ques

2

2nd Reading: Teacher (or partner) r
passage a second time while stud
follow along. Have students comp
Vocabulary. This allows students t
understanding of unfamiliar word
passage, leading to a deeper co
the text.

3

3rd Reading: Students reread th
then responds in writing, citing
students complete **Task 3: Rere**
This page of questions requires
and cite text evidence when
questions. Additionally, stude
Task 4: Reread and Respond
Summarize. These final tasks
use the text evidence to wri
and supported summary.

Annotating Marks

As you read the passage, make the following marks o

Circle powerful words or

Underline words or phrase
not understand.

Place a question mark near
something that makes you
think of a question.

Write an exclamation mark n
something that surprises you

Draw an arrow where you ma
personal connection to certain
words or ideas.

Write your important
thoughts in the margins.

Wow! Th
character
showed a lo
of courage
here...

ABOUT THIS PACKET

The first part of this packet includes 5 reading passage and one week's worth of reading activities for each passage. The Close Reading passages included in this packet are each provided at 2 different reading levels, so that you may more easily differentiate your instruction. The informational content of the 2 versions is the same, but the reading levels are different. All question sheets are the same. This makes it easy for you to provide reading passages on each student's level, but use the same question and activity sheets for the entire class!

NOTE:
The **easier** passage has a ■ in the bottom left corner.
The **more difficult** passage has a ▲ in the bottom left corner.

Each passage with its activities is designed for a 5-day time frame, following this schedule:

Day	Title of Activity	Purpose
1	**Task 1: Read and Annotate**	Read passage for the first time. Use annotation symbols to annotate. Answer surface level questions.
2	**Task 2: Vocabulary**	Read passage for the second time. Students choose vocabulary words that are unknown to them and complete the vocabulary activity using those words.
3	**Task 3: Reread and Dig Deeper**	Read passage a third time. Students answer deeper level questions, citing text evidence to support answers.
4	**Task 4: Reread and Respond**	Students use the graphic organizer to identify the main idea and supporting details of the passage.
5	**Task 5: Summarize**	Using the completed graphic organizer from Day 4, students write a summary supporting details for the passage.

The reading levels for each differentiated passage are provided in this chart:

Passage Title	Symbol	Lexile Level
Mozart – Musical Genius	■	720
The History of Little League	▲	940
The Sweet Story of Honey	■	780
George Washington Carver	▲	1,000
The United States Constitution	■	740
	▲	950
	■	800
	▲	1,030
	■	750
	▲	930

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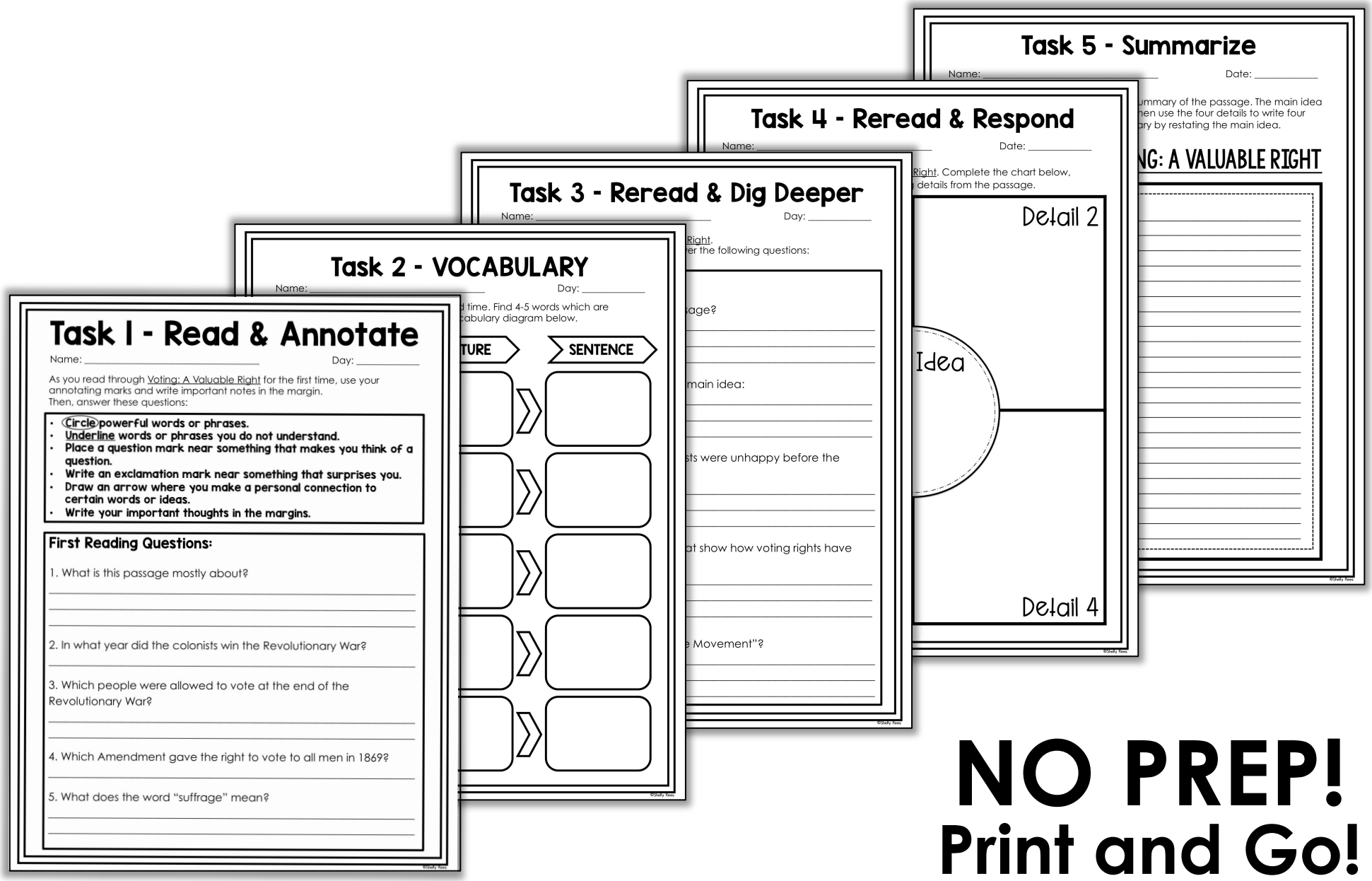
5 Days of Close Reading Activities for GREATER Reading Comprehension



NO PREP!

Print and Go!

Answer Keys Provided

Task 3 - Reread & Dig Deeper

VOTING: A VALUABLE RIGHT ANSWER KEY

Text Evidence Questions: Some answers may vary.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
Voting rights in the united States have changed through the years, thanks to the hard work and suffrage movements of many people.

2. List three details that support the main idea:
a) Before the Revolutionary War, colonists could not vote.
b) At one time, only rich, white, male landowners could vote.
c) Women had to fight for the right to vote.

3. Explain why the American colonists were unhappy before the Revolutionary War.
The colonists were unhappy because they couldn't vote. Parlian
and the British King made all the decisions for the colonists.

4. Cite 3 pieces of text evidence that show how
changed through the years.
a) After the Revolutionary W
could vote.
b) The 15th Ame
c) In 1848, wome

5. What was the "Women's Suffrage Movement"?
Women met and led protests demanding the right to vote.

Task 1 - Read & Annotate

VOTING: A VALUABLE RIGHT ANSWER KEY

- Circle powerful words or phrases.
- Underline words or phrases you do not understand.
- Place a question mark near something that makes you think of a question.
- Write an exclamation mark near something that surprises you.
- Draw an arrow where you make a personal connection to certain words or ideas.
- Write your important thoughts in the margins.

First Reading Questions: Some answers may vary.

1. What is this passage mostly about?
This passage is mostly about American voting rights and how they have changed th

2. In
nists win the Revolutionary War?
ionary War in 1776.

people were allowed to vote at the end of the
volutionary War?
The American colonists had finally won their right to vote.

4. Which Amendment gave the right to vote to all men in 1869?
The 15th Amendment gave the right to vote to all men.

5. What does the word "suffrage" mean?
The word "suffrage" means having the right to vote in elections.

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