**Window Pane Summary**

**Purpose:** This strategy is designed to summarize learning using the higher order thinking skills of analysis, elaboration, and paraphrasing.

**Description:** This strategy is most effective when used with content that is unfamiliar, abstract, filled with details, or lengthy. The Window Pane Summary strategy helps students identify key areas of focus in content area reading selection and determine what’s most important in each area of focus. Window Pane Summary increases students’ understanding of the content learned by having them transfer information and elaborate on it.

**Procedure:**

1. Use this strategy once students have completed a reading selection.
2. Review with students guidelines for summarizing such as including only important in formation, combining related ideas, using category terms instead of a list of works (i.e. use *furnitu*re for chair, sofa, table) and refraining from using direct quotations or adding personal opinions.
3. Have students construct a window pane on a sheet of paper using either four or six panes, depending on the organization of the content. Identify four to six categories from the reading selection to put into each of the boxes. To increase higher level thinking skills, have students analyze the text pattern in order to identify how information should be chunked and categorized.
4. Students should work individually or cooperatively to summarize the information necessary to fill the panes for each or assigned categories.
5. Once information has been gathered pertaining to the categories, students can generate summary statements about each category as well as a conclusive summary statement about the overall concept/topic.

**Sample Window Pane Summary**

**Topic: The Civil Rights Movement for African Americans**

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| **Compare and Contrast the Civil Rights Movement for African Americans with the Civil Rights Movement for Women** | **Role of the Citizens** |
| **Role of the United States Government** | **Outcome of Both Movements** |
| **Overall Effect of the Two Movements on Society Today** | **Connections to *the Rosa Parks, My Story* by Parks & Haskins** |

**TOPIC:**

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