

APPENDIX C

SAMPLE MINILESSON

Goal: Remember key ideas and details by taking notes as you read/view/listen.

Connect

As a class, one of our goals is to remember key ideas and details as we read articles, watch videos, and listen to talks.

- Teacher points to class chart of goals.

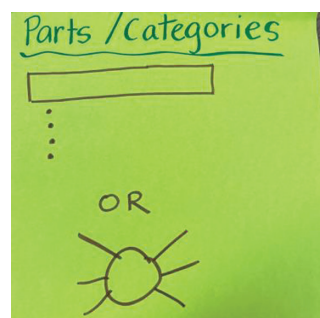
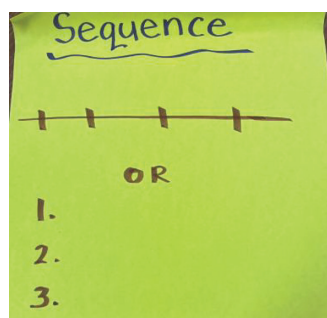
We have already noticed that when we don't take notes, we tend to forget some of the most important information. I get it. Many of you don't like to take notes. When you do take notes, I've noticed that some of you always take notes the same way—a long list of details—no matter the purpose or type of text.

When we choose not to take notes, it is sort of like going grocery shopping without a list and then getting home and realizing we don't have some of the ingredients for the recipe. And when we take notes in only one way, we may be missing out on approaches that suit us better than, say, making a list.

Today we will learn a strategy for how to take meaningful notes that match the text you are learning from and you, the learner.

Model

Take a look at these charts of a few ways to take notes. The first is an example of taking notes when you want to remember information in sequence, and the second is for when you want to remember the parts or categories of information that go with a bigger topic.



Watch how I preview this article and decide how to take notes (in sequence or in parts) based on how the text is set up.

- Teacher models reading the first few paragraphs and scanning the rest and then thinking aloud about what they notice.

	<p>This article seems to be written about the benefits of eating whole grains and how it helps our bodies. But as I skim ahead, I see that the author is going on to address a larger topic of healthy eating. Since this first section on whole grains is a part of a topic and will list benefits of other foods, I am going to look at the second chart and choose either box and bullets or a web to take notes. I like to use a box and bullets, so I will give it a try.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher reads the first paragraph and models how they take notes. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;">Benefits of eating whole grains</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High in fiber • Reduces risk of heart disease • Helps you feel full and satisfied <p>See how I chose a note-taking format to help me remember the key information (benefits) and then the supporting details bulleted underneath? I'll use this same format to take notes on the next section, on the benefits of eating nuts and seeds.</p> <p>Using a timeline or numbered list just wouldn't match this text because the information is not set up in a sequence. Using the box and bullets helped. I can remember the boxed idea as a key one and then look back at the details that go with it. If I didn't put the box at the top, I might miss the key category the supporting details go with.</p>
<p>Guided Practice</p>	<p>Now it is your turn to try. Take out the article you are reading today.</p> <p>Begin previewing the article and thinking, "How is this text set up? Is it about a sequence of events or the parts of a topic? Or something else?"</p> <p>Next, look at the chart of sample note-taking formats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher points back to the chart they modeled. <p>Choose one that matches the way you like to take notes and the type of text you are reading.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students set up the note-taking format. Then they begin reading and try it out. • Teacher walks around the room for a few minutes as students give it a try. They will not finish the entire article but can begin enough that the teacher can check in and see how it is going. • If and when students struggle, the teacher can gently coach and point to the charts as examples. <p>Now take a minute to share with a partner how you took your notes and if it is working to help you remember key details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher may ask a student to share their notes with the whole class if there is time.
<p>Link</p>	<p>I will leave these charts up and add them to our class drive as a reminder so you can refer back to them. Remember that whenever you are reading, or viewing a video, or listening to a talk, and you want to hold onto the key ideas and supporting details, you can set up a note-taking format that matches the type of text you are reading.</p>