

After Reading – Responding



RAFT – Role/Audience/Format/Topic

- What?** RAFT is an acronym for role of the writer, audience for the Writer, format of the writing, and topic to be addressed
- Why?** RAFT requires students to place themselves into their reading and learning. They may have to consider thoughts and opinions that may be different from their own. A RAFT provides focal points and structures for thinking about their reading or learning. Students also have an opportunity to experience the organization and style of various writing formats.
- How?** Once you have determined the important ideas you want students to learn from the material, consider various roles and writing formats that best work with the key concepts. Although students may all use the same RAFT when first introduced, you may want to offer different choices once students have some experience.

The writing can be done individually, in pairs, or small groups.

Make available sample formats to help them plan their writing as students may not be familiar with the structures (i.e. letter to the editor, television script, business letter).

Provide additional support for brainstorming by using the attached Role Definition Matrix.

Sample RAFT Ideas:

<u>Role</u>	<u>Audience</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Mozart	Prospective Employer	Job Interview	Qualifications as a composer
Supermodel	Cosmetic Company	Letter	Skin reactions to products
Gov. Bradford	Shipping Company	Diary	Disease
Shakespeare	Television Audience	Interview	Relating to today's teens

ROLE DEFINITION MATRIX

Personality – Who am I and what are some aspects of my character?

Attitude – What are my feelings, beliefs, ideas, concerns?

Information - What do I know that I need to share in my writing?

Adapted from Buehl, D. (2001). *Classroom strategies for interactive learning*.