Let’s Learn the 6 Signposts

How will I find them?
What should I ask when I see one?
What will the signposts tell me?
Signpost #1

Write it.
Learn it.
See it.
1. LIST YOUR BEST TRAITS FROM THIS LIST:

1.

2.

3.
2. FOR EACH TRAIT ON YOUR LIST, WRITE THE ANTONYM.

Example:

1. responsible (irresponsible)
2. organized (messy)
3. honest (______)
Using one of your antonyms, write a story about a time when you behaved in a way that contrasts with who you normally are.

P.S. Your story may be true or fictional:)
Most people would say I’m pretty ______________. I usually …. One day, however,…..
The Signpost:

**Contrast & Contradiction**

When a character does something that contrasts with what you’d expect or contradicts his or her earlier acts or statements....
The Signpost: **Contrast/Contradiction**

**STOP** and ask yourself, “Why is the character doing that?”

The answer will help you make a prediction or an **inference** about the plot and conflict.
The Signpost:

Contrast/Contradiction

Let’s watch one in Despicable Me. or in the short film The Scarecrow
Signpost #2

Write it.
Learn it.
See it.
Using one of the following story starters, imagine and write:)

Nobody could believe it when _____, who was usually so _____, actually said, “__________.”

It took _____________ to bring out another side of ____________. It all started when....
Good Day!

- WARM-UP: Pick up your Reading Folder AND Writer's Notebook.
- Read for 10 minutes:)
AHA MOMENT....

Tell the story of a time when a character has a realization. You could use the following story starters or make one of your own!

- Suddenly, I realized, why fit in when you are born to stand out?
- I finally understood that I am capable of more than I know.
- It came to me in a flash that you are free to choose, but you are not free from the consequence of your choice.
- I now knew that until one has loved an animal, a part of one’s soul remains unawakened.
The Signpost:

**Aha Moment**

When you are reading and suddenly a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out, you should ...
The Signpost: Aha Moment!

STOP and ask yourself, “How might this change things?”

If the character figured out a problem, you probably just learned about the conflict.

If the character understood a life lesson, you probably just learned the theme.
The Signpost: Aha Moment!

Let’s notice one happen in this clip from Tangled!
Signpost #3

Write it.
Learn it.
See it.
Write a letter to a 100 year old person, who has a lifetime of wisdom, asking for help with a problem.

- explain how it started
- describe the details
- tell how it’s making you feel
- describe the ways it’s affecting your life
- request advice
Write a letter from the 100 year old wise person, giving sage advice to the letter writer. Include a golden nugget of life wisdom somewhere in your letter.
The Signpost: **Words of the Wiser**

When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the main character aside and offers serious advice...
STOP and ask, “What’s the life lesson and how might it affect the character?” This lesson is probably the theme of the story.
Let’s notice this signpost from Yoda in *The Empire Strikes Back*. 
Signpost #4

Write it.
Learn it.
See it.
TOUGH QUESTIONS....

Copy your “TOUGH QUESTION” from the card you received. Write your response to the question, taking time to speculate and describe the situation, your thoughts, feelings, and reasoning.
The Signpost: 
**Tough Questions**

When you are reading and the character asks him/herself a really difficult question...
The Signpost: Tough Question

STOP and ask yourself, “What does this question make me wonder about?”

The answers will tell you about the conflict and might give you ideas about what will happen later in the story.
The Signpost: 
**Tough Questions**

Let’s watch one in a short animation called **Cooler Self.**
Signpost #5

Write it.
Learn it.
See it.
Make 3 lists of elements that if we were watching a movie of your life would appear “again and again”. Which elements reveal important “themes” about you, your values, or your interests?

(Copy the following lists into your Writer’s Notebook:)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items/Objects:</th>
<th>Colors:</th>
<th>Nature:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1.</td>
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</tbody>
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The Signpost: Again & Again

When you are reading and you notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over...
The Signpost: Again & Again

**STOP** and ask yourself, "Why does this keep showing up again and again?"

The answers will tell you about **theme** and **conflict**, or they might **foreshadow** what will happen later. They also might help you notice an important **symbol** in the story.
The Signpost:
Again & Again

Let’s watch two film clips from The Lion King to notice what appears “again and again.”
Clip 1.
Clip 2.
Write about a favorite memory that helps remind you of an important quality in yourself or in someone special to you.

courage?
caring?
humor?
quick thinking?
patience?
perseverance?
love of animals?
The Signpost: Memory Moment

When the author interrupts the action to tell you about a character’s memory...
STOP and ask yourself, "Why might this memory be important?"

The answers will tell you about the theme, conflict, or might foreshadow what will happen later in the story.
The Signpost: **Memory Moment**

Let’s watch one in *Despicable Me* and another in the short film *Shoe.*
Let’s Review.

Spot the 6 signposts & ask yourself the guiding questions to dig deeper.
What signposts will you notice?

Contrasts & Contradictions?
Aha Moment?
Words of the Wiser?
Tough Questions?
Memory Moment?
Again & Again?

Look for:

Let’s watch Harry Potter and The Incredibles.