**Talking to the Text (T4)** Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Often when you read, the text “talks” to you. You read the words to see what they say to you. But that is really one sided; it doesn’t allow you to really think about what you are reading. This strategy gives you the chance to talk to the text, or T4. When you T4, you ask questions, share what you already know, and put into your own words what you have read.

Here are things you can do when talking to the text:

**Ask Questions**: If something doesn’t make sense, write down your question. Start with Where, Why, Who, What, When, or How. These can be questions you ask in class or in small group work. These are also things you need to make sure you understand before your assessment.

**Share What You Already Know**: If something is familiar or reminds you of something else you already know, write down what you’re thinking about. This is also called connecting. The more connections you make with your reading, the better your brain can remember the information.

**Make General Comments**: Whatever crosses your mind as you read, write it down. It could be Really? or Wow! or I never knew that! This is the easiest level of T4 – don’t overdo it!

**Make Predictions**: If you think you know what is coming, write it down.

**Put it Into Your Own Words**: This is also called summarizing. Take what you’ve read and pick out the most important thing to remember. Write it in your own words. Try to do this as often as possible. This is a very valuable part of T4.

Your T4 notes will often be used in a small group or class discussion. Your teachers will expect everyone to have something to contribute to these discussions.