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**Readers are leaders!**

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To help you dig deeper with your thinking, I am including some possible thinking stems to help guide the way. Use these keep the focus on your thinking, NOT on a retell or telling of how you like or dislike your book.

Letter guidelines- Please make sure you follow friendly letter guidelines. They are as follows:

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Dear Mrs. Bunyi,

I am reading *The Mixed-Up Files of Basil E. Frankenweiler*. So far, it has confused me trying to figure out who the narrator is that writes in parenthesis. I wonder if the mystery writer is Basil E. Frankenweiler, but I am not sure who that is yet at this point.

My guess is that the two main characters are not going to last very long living in a museum. I predict they will start to miss their family and want to return home soon.

Your student,

Billy Bob

---

**Reading Stems**

**Schema**

**Your Own World Wide Web!**

That reminds me...~ My connection is...

~I have schema for..~I’m remembering..~I can relate to...~I am thinking of...

**Visualizing**

**See For Yourself!**

I’m picturing...~ My mental image is...~ I can smell/taste...~ I can imagine...~I can see/feel...~ I can touch/hear...

**Questioning**

**Fuel for Thought!**

I wonder...~ Why...~ It confused me...~ What if...~ I don’t understand...~How could...

**Synthesizing**

**Layer after Layer after Layer...**

Now I understand why...~I’m beginning to think...~I used to think...~I’m changing my mind about...~My new thinking is...~but now I think...

**Inferring**

**Not Just Anybody’s Guess!**

My guess is...~It could be that...~I predict...~Maybe...~This could mean...~Perhaps

**Determining Importance**

**What Matters Most?**

What’s important here...~What matters to me...~It’s interesting that...I want to remember...~ One thing to notice is...