

# Math Close Reading

1<sup>st</sup> read – Get the gist of what is

happening so that you can retell it.

2<sup>nd</sup> read – What is the problem asking you?

3<sup>rd</sup> read – What operation matches the situation in the problem?

4<sup>th</sup> read – After determining your answer, reread the problem to make sure that your answer makes sense.

# 1st Read

Get the gist of what is happening in the word problem so that you can retell it.

ask yourself:

- What is happening in the beginning, middle, and end of the problem?
- What information do I know?
- Do I understand what the problem is telling me so that I can retell it?

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Read

What is the problem asking you?

ask yourself:

- What is the question in the world problem or outcome for me to solve?
- Is there more than one part to the question?
- How can I restate the question into a sentence?

# 3rd Read

What operation matches the situation in the problem?

ask yourself:

- What is the situation in the problem?
- Is the problem involving a situation that requires addition or subtraction?
- Is the problem involving a situation that requires multiplication or division?

# 4th Read

After determining your answer, reread the problem to make sure that your answer makes sense.

ask yourself:

- Does my answer make sense in the sentence?
- Does my answer make sense based on what happened in the word problem?

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**Directions:** Cut out the template. Glue the narrow strip to your paper. Under the flaps, write what your focus should be each time you read the word problem or task.

close reading in math

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Thanks!  
Jennifer Findley

