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Guiding questions for Chapter 18 of Fountas and Pinnell

1. What do the authors mean when they write, "Reading, then, is constructing meaning from print"?

2. Compare your awareness of yourself as a reader with the list of characteristics of successful readers that is on p. 302. Which of these activities are you most aware of engaging in as you read for the purposes of learning (as opposed to for the purposes of skimming for information or reading for pleasure).

3. Think about the three major language systems that readers use in the process of reading text. What does this mean for children who are learning to speak English as a second language? What challenges might they have?

4. Why do teachers focus on "strategy instruction" in the teaching of reading?

- 5. This chapter is filled with implications regarding what teachers must attend to if they are to teach reading for understanding. As you read this chapter, keep a list of implications for you the teacher. Identify at least 10 implications that you can derive from this chapter. For example:
 - a. I need to look for evidence that my students are, in fact, doing what effective readers do to comprehend text.
 - b. I need to give students the opportunity for both oral reading and silent reading.