

BOX 7.3

Evaluating Roadblocks

PURPOSE

For students who do not understand that text is supposed to make sense (and there are more than a few), a first step may be for them to simply identify points of confusion and consciously decide what to do: clarify or move on.

PROCEDURE

- Explain that in pairs, one student will Think Aloud while the other records the roadblocks the reading partner identifies and what the person decides to do about the roadblock: clarify or move on.
- Have partners take turns Thinking Aloud or recording.
- When partners finish the reading assignment, have them trade papers so that each has the notes for his or her own Think Aloud.
- Ask students to review their decisions to clarify or move on: Were there roadblocks that they should have clarified but didn't? Were there roadblocks that were okay to ignore? What did they learn about reading from this experience?

Each partner should have a copy of a note taker such as the one shown here.

Page	Roadblock	Action	
		<i>Clarify</i>	
		<i>Move On</i>	
		<i>Clarify</i>	
		<i>Move On</i>	
		<i>Clarify</i>	
		<i>Move On</i>	
		<i>Clarify</i>	
		<i>Move On</i>	

confusion. After reading, students have opportunities to reflect on and consolidate the new connections and new knowledge they have acquired. These freshly elaborated schema can ease their next encounters with related information and allow them to make previously unavailable connections to their newly enlarged store of knowledge.