Text Reading Protocol

Purpose
This protocol is designed to provide discussion opportunities that enhance understanding of the text.

Facilitation
Stick to the time limits. Each round takes up to three minutes per person in a group. Emphasize the need to watch airtime during the brief group response segment.

Roles
Facilitator/timekeeper (who also participates)
Participants

Process
1. Sit in groups of three or four (ideally groups should all be the same size). Identify one facilitator/timekeeper for the class (usually the teacher). The teacher should join a group also, if possible given group sizes. (3 minutes)

2. Ask individuals to read the text and highlight or underline words, phrases, or sentences that catch their attention. Explain that they will be sharing those selections of the passage with the whole group. (10 minutes)

3. Have students select one highlighted word, phrase, or sentence of the text that stands out the most to them and prepare to explain why. (1 minute)

4. Conduct discussion rounds. Be tight with time limits. (9-12 minutes)

    - Each person in the group has **one minute** to read the highlighted word, phrase, or sentence aloud to the group and explain why it stands out to them. If students need a sentence stem, they can say: I chose _____ because _____.
    - Other group members have **two minutes** to respond to what has been said. Consider providing sentence stems, such as:
        - What you shared made me think _____.
        - That connects to what I was thinking because _____.
        - That makes me wonder _____.
    - Repeat for each member of the group. Groups of three will take nine minutes. Groups of four will take 12 minutes.

Adapted from the Three Levels of Text Protocol by the open-source School Reform Initiative. Retrieved from http://schoolreforminitiative.org/doc/3_levels_text.pdf.