

READING Strategy → It Says...I Say...

Reading component

Comprehension

Overview of the strategy

The It Says...I Say... strategy, developed by Beers, is appropriate for teaching paraphrase and inference.

Strategy procedure

1. Choose and distribute a text on the instructional level of students. Display and distribute the It Says...I Say... Chart (see below).
2. Read the text to or with the students. Model how to choose a quote from the text and write it on the chart. Model formulating a question, paraphrasing the quote, and/or articulating background knowledge and writing these on the chart. Model combining the quote and background information into an inference and writing it on the chart. Such inferences frequently answer the questions.
3. Assign partners, and instruct the pairs to find several more quotes from the text to use on the chart. It is appropriate to give the students a minimum and maximum number of quotes or to pre-select the ones they will use.
4. Repeat often with increasingly difficult texts. Instruct students to work independently, as appropriate.

It Says...I Say... Chart				
It says...	Question	I say... (paraphrase)	I say... (prior knowledge)	Inference

Source

- K. Beers, *Reading Strategies for High School: A Guide to Teaching Reading in the Literature Classroom* (Austin, Texas: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2000).