Explanation for Application of Reading Strategy

Concept Circle

Concept Circles (Vacca and Vacca, 2005) allow students to study words critically and conceptually. The Concept Circle is a categorizing activity. Students respond to the visual aspect of manipulating the sections of the circle.

Before Reading	Before reading, the teacher and students preview the text, noting the key vocabulary. The meanings of the words are predicted based on the title, subtitles, pictures and captions. The vocabulary is then categorized.
During Reading	During reading, the students verify the meanings of the previously categorized words and take structured notes on their reading.
After Reading	After reading, the students are given Concept Circles. The teacher arranges one, two or three forms on the student graphic organizer. Working in learning groups or independently, students group words or phrases in the four sections of the circle, then name the concept they are illustrating. The students can work from a word bank if needed.

The teacher can modify this strategy by filling in all but one or two sections of the circle. The students then fill in the empty sections with words that relate in some way to the terms in the concept circle. Students name the concept on the blank below the circle.
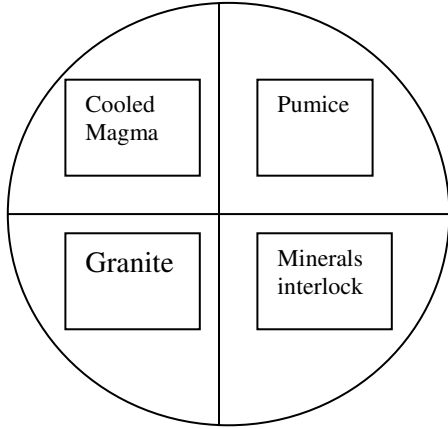
Another variation has the teacher complete the circle terms and the students review the terms finding one term that does not relate to the concept. Students shade in or slash the term that does not belong. Again, students name the concept and are able to discuss the way terms are related .
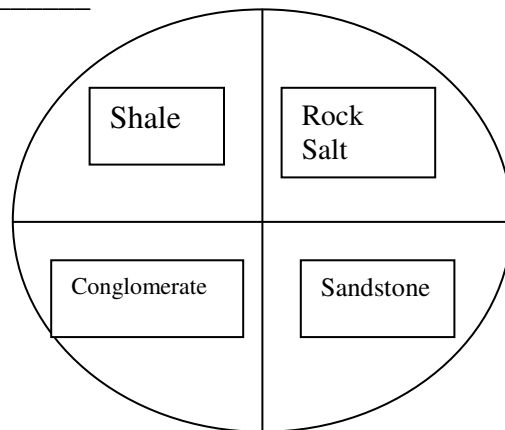
Vocabulary

Model for Application of Reading Strategy
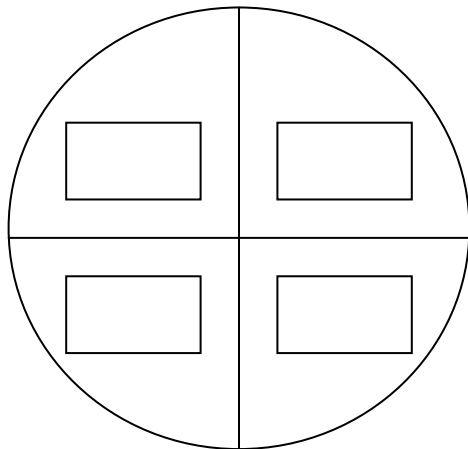
Concept Circle

In the circles below, fill in the empty space with a term that relates to the other three terms. On the line, write what the four terms have in common.

Cooled Magma	Pumice
Granite	Minerals interlock

1._____Igneous rocks_____

Shale	Rock Salt
Conglomerate	Sandstone

2._____Sedimentary rocks_____
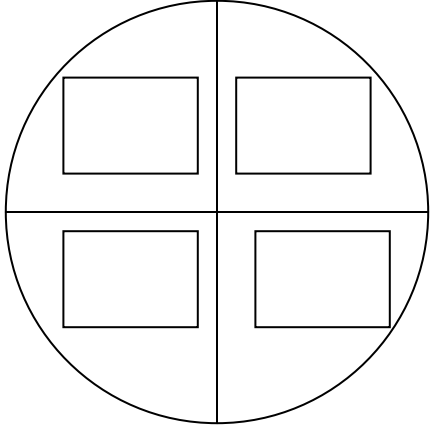
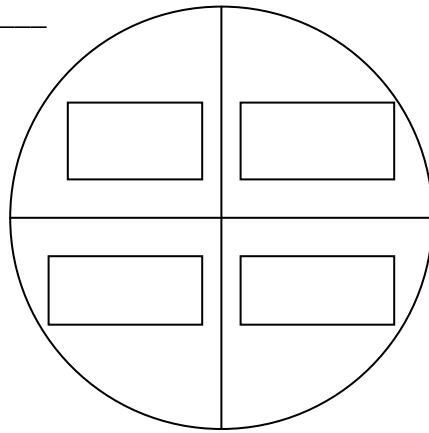|	

1._____Metampophic rocks_____

Vocabulary

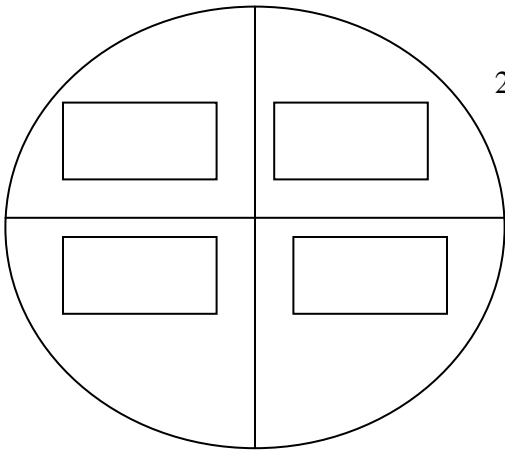Template for Application of Reading Strategy

Concept Circle

In the circles below, fill in the empty space with a term that relates to the other three terms. On the line, write what the four terms have in common.

1._____

2._____

3. _____