Notes: Making Inferences

**EQ:** How do readers make inferences throughout the reading process?

Inference – Drawing a conclusion based on observation from pictures and clues from the text when the author doesn’t directly tell you

**It’s important to make inferences on the characters in your text**

- Look at what they say and do
- Look at how they act

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**Examples:**

- **Clue:** Monkey always has a book in his hand.
  **Inference:** Monkey loves to read and learn.

- **Clue:** Frances makes her house out of bits of desert glass.
  **Inference:** Frances is creative/unique and likes art/colorful items.

Notice how all of the verbs are in present tense. When you are inferring, you are inferring that something IS happening or has happened. When you try to infer that something WILL HAPPEN, then you’re making a prediction.

**WILL HAPPEN → FUTURE → PREDICTION**

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**Response to Literature (Journal Entry)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inference</th>
<th><strong>These are the clues that help me infer:</strong> the woman is crying; the man is comforting the woman; they are visiting the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial; their backs are turned to the wall, indicating they just looked at a name on it.</th>
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<tr>
<td>I infer the older couple lost a loved one during the Vietnam War.</td>
<td><strong>This makes me feel</strong> sad because the couple lost a loved one. If I lost a loved one, the pain would be unbearable. I also tend to feel sad when other people are sad; I don’t like to see other people in emotional or physical pain. I can also relate to this couple because I know someone who served in Afghanistan, and I fear what it would be like if that person didn’t come home.</td>
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