# Using Reading Strategies

Here is a structured way to apply a reading strategy to a text:

1. Discuss the importance of the strategy itself.

EXAMPLE: One important lens to apply to a text is the presence of money. Doing this can tell us things about people’s values, life circumstances, and challenges.

1. Locate the strategy in the text.

EXAMPLE: In Chapter 2 of *A Dream Called Home*, we can see, by focusing on money, the crushing poverty Reyna Grande experienced as a child. Discussing her childhood in the village of Iguala, Mexico, she writes, “for the most part, my siblings and I were dressed in rags, wore cheap plastic sandals, had lice and tapeworm, and ate nothing but beans and tortillas every day” (15).

1. Say what we learn about the text and its themes by applying this strategy.

EXAMPLE: This not only lets us know more about Grande, but the struggles many immigrants face; in other words, what would motivate them to come to America in search of a better life.