

Gathering Evidence of Cultural Relevance

1. **Characters:** As you compose your review of the text, explain the reasons that the characters are different from or similar to you and your family.
2. **Experiences:** How are the experiences in the story different from or similar to your own experiences? In your review, be sure to explain why and how the experiences compare to your own.
3. **Place (Setting):** What aspects of the places in the story were different from or similar to those that you have lived in or visited? In your review, you can talk about the comparisons and how they affected your understanding of the story.
4. **Time (Setting):** How do the events in the text compare to events that take place in the present? Which events in the text tell you whether the story could take place in the present?
5. **Main Character's Age:** How can you tell the age of the main character(s)? What details in the text make it obvious to you?
6. **Main Character's Gender:** Note the number of characters who are the same gender as you are. How many characters in the text are not the same gender as you?
7. **Languages:** What examples in the text show that the characters do or do not talk, read, and write like you do?
8. **Frequency:** What other texts have you read, seen, or listened to that are similar to this one? What texts have you read that are different? Which of the items in the rubric do they have in common with this text?