

Figure 5.1: Think-Aloud Protocol

Preparatory Question: Why am I reading this text? [purpose]

Step 1: Teacher Read Through [print concepts, fluency, and prosody]

- Read with expression and feeling, but no commentary.
- Pause about two seconds after finishing the words on a page.

Step 2: Noticing

- What information is in the words, pictures, and figures? [text features]
- How did the writer organize this text? [text organization and structure]
 - ◆ Sequence
 - ◆ Description
 - ◆ Comparison
 - ◆ Causation
 - ◆ Problem and solution
 - ◆ Collection
- Who is talking in this text? [point of view]

Step 3: Thinking

- What other texts is this text like? [comparing texts]
- What do specific words and phrases mean? [words and language]
- Who feels what and where?*[analyzing narratives]
- What does the text mean? What ideas are the most important? [main idea and themes]
- What does the author want me to think? [claims, evidence, and reasoning]

* Include if the text is a narrative.