**Criteria for Creating Gift of Words**

* Powerful phrases that make us stop, notice and think
* Variety of words and phrases
* Evoke emotions and feelings
* Helps to build a personal connection and deeper understanding
* Builds appreciation towards language (literary devices, metaphors, simile, alliteration, etc.)
* Leads students to react and evoke emotions when using the following strategies:
  + - * Visualizations
      * Inferencing
      * Synthesizing

**Criteria for Thinking and Learning Questions**

* Open ended enough – does not limit thinking
* Allows for thinking about different big ideas
* Allows for multiple interpretations to promote discussions
* Asks for thinking and opinions supported by evidence
* Helps develop a deeper understanding of the story, character, big idea, self, life, etc.
* Pushes and/or clarifies thinking
* Challenges assumptions