The following are essential focus lessons for monitoring for meaning. Select those lessons that are most appropriate for your grade level.

- Good readers listen to their inner voice as they read.
- Good readers leave tracks of their thinking as they read.
- Good readers make mental pictures or movies in their head as they read.
- Good readers stop, think, and react to nonfiction text.
- Good readers stop reading when they are confused or not focused.
- Good readers stop reading when they can’t see the mental pictures or movies (visualizations) in their head or can’t hear the inner voice in their head.
- Good readers ask themselves “Does it sound right?” or “Does it make sense?” if they come to unknown words or confusing text.
- Good readers reread text when they are confused or lose the mental images in their head.
- Good readers often skip an unknown word, read on, and then reread.
- Good readers use context clues to figure out the meaning of unknown words.