Reciprocal Teaching Roles

The Predictor:
Your role is to start first. You should look at the heading that accompanies the text and make predictions about what it will be about. The following kinds of statements may be helpful:

• I think this text will tell us…
• This text will explain…
• When reading about this topic, we will need to know…
• A statement that might be relevant to reading this piece is…
• What do we think we know about this topic already?

The Summarizer:
You must begin by saying what you think the text is about. You should do this paragraph by paragraph. You should do it in one or two sentences. As you read the text, you may want to underline what you think are key features. You may find the following prompts helpful.

• The key point of this text is…
• It draws on what we already know…
• It explains how…

Questioner:
Your role is to ask questions about:

• Unclear parts
• Puzzling information
• How what is being read connects to what you might already know
• What the text explains

The following prompts may help you:

• What do you think?
• Why do you think that?
• Let’s think again…
• Can you say a bit more?
• What else do we know?
• I can tell you about…
• Can you explain?
• I hadn’t thought of that until you said it
• I disagree because…
• But…
• I agree but…
• I believe that…
• I think…
• A different point of view
• I can’t see how your point fits in with…

The Clarifier:

Your role is to address confusing parts and attempt to answer the questions that were just posed. You should try and help explain what the text is about. The following may be helpful.

• The main idea in this piece is…
• One way of looking at what this is saying is…
• This piece builds on what we already know about…
• The most difficult ideas in this text is…
• What this is saying would be clearer if it explained what _____ is or does.
• Are their words in this text that we do not understand?