

Reading Strategy: "Somebody Wanted but So"



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 First & last name / date / period

Purpose: This is a scaffold for narrative text. The SWBS reading strategy will help you write a well-developed, one-sentence summary of a story, a poem, or a meaningful selection of a text.

Description: Use a graphic organizer to create a "Somebody Wanted but So" statement.

Steps:

1. If necessary, "chunk" a longer work into manageable parts.
2. Decide which somebody to consider (the main characters of the story or poem).
3. Determine what that somebody wanted (plot).
4. Relate what occurred that caused a problem (conflict).
5. Indicate what eventually happened (resolution).

For Longer Works:

- o Connect your SWBS statement with words like *then*, *later*, *and*, or *but*.
- o Specify point of view as you change characters in the "Somebody" column.

Goal: Compose a one-sentence summary of the selected text.

Somebody	Wanted	But	So
Doctor De Soto	to fix teeth of animals who would not harm him	the fox begged him to help him with his toothache	he bravely decided to help the fox.
Fox	to be pain free	Dr. De Soto didn't want to help	the fox said, "I beg you, do something! My tooth is killing me."
The DeSotos	to take the risk to help the fox.	was afraid of him when the fox returned the next morning	they made a glue that would keep his mouth closed for a day or two. This way he would not be able to harm the DeSotos.

Resources: Steig, W. (1982) *Doctor De Soto*. NY: Scholastic Inc.
 Beers, K. (2003). *When Kids Can't Read What Teachers Can Do*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

SOMEBODY	WANTED	BUT	SO

Source:
Beers, Dr. Kylee. *Reading Strategies Handbook – A Guide to Teaching Reading in the Literature Classroom*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2003.