**Observations**

1. Repeated words

2. Repeated ideas/themes

3. Key words- meaning essential in understanding the passage. Sometimes repeated.

4. Who- main characters, people, people groups, author, audience

5. Pronouns- I, you, she, they, mine, yours, his, their, who, me, etc.…

6. What- events taking place. Order of events.

7. Geographical locations on a map.

8. Where

9. When/time element- Before, after, during, while, then, until, when

10. Verb tenses- past, present, or future

11. Contrasts- Simple contrasts, like “but” and broader contrasts of ideas, people, events

12. Comparisons- “like” “or” “as” also ideas, events, attitudes, etc…

13. Conditional statements- if…(then)

14. Connectives that reflect reasons, results, and conclusions…therefore, yet, however, likewise, so then, nevertheless, so that, because, for, etc…

15. Commands, Advice, Promises, Warnings, Predictions

16. Author’s logic

17. Progression- Does the author move to a climax? General to specific? Statement to illustration? Teaching to application? Problem to solution?

18. Laws of composition

19. Beginning and end of passage or book

20. Questions and answers

21. Illustrations

22. Old Testament quotations

23. Figures of speech

24. Summary statements (not writing your own summary statements)

25. Emphatic statements- Truly, behold, indeed, I tell you, I Paul, verify, etc…

26. Lists- 3 or more elements.

27. Atmosphere, moods and emotions – Gentle, joyful, angry, rebuking, etc…

28. List things you do not understand

**FOLLOW UP OBERVATION QUESTIONS**

All observation is about what the text says, NEVER about what it means (that is Interpretation and Application)

For Repeated Words or Ideas, you could ask:

How many times is it repeated?

Is it repeated in the same context?

If it is a repeated idea, what is unique about this repetition? What is the same?

For Figures of speech you could ask:

What Figure of speech is used here?

For NT/OT quotes you could ask:

What scripture is quoted (referenced)

What is the context of the original quote? (What was the quoted author talking about!)

How does the author use it? (To support an argument? As an illustration?)

For a list:

What is the list about? (Character traits/sins to avoid/etc.…)

How does the author use it? (Advice/Expectations/Description)

Is a Law of composition used? (See Structure and Composition)

For Connectives, Comparisons, and Contrasts:

What is being connected, compared, contrasted? (Usually in Primary Observation)

Does the author comment on it? (“do not be like…” “live like…”)

Is it repeated?

For a progression you could ask?

Does the author move to a climax? (What is it?)

General to specific? Question to Answer? Problem to solution?

Teaching to Application?