

“New Directions” by Maya Angelou **Reading: Ask Questions to Make Predictions**

A **prediction** is an informed guess about what will happen later in a narrative. Predictions are based on details in the text and on your own experience. When **making and verifying predictions**, predict what will happen, and then read on to see if the prediction is correct.

- One way to make predictions is to pause periodically while reading and **ask questions** about text details and events. You can ask yourself questions such as *Why does the author mention this detail? How might it become important later on?* Then, look for the answers to those questions as you read ahead.
- Use the following chart to record your predictions. Then, see how many of your predictions were correct.

DIRECTIONS: *In the left column are some of the major events in “New Directions.” Ask yourself questions about what may be the outcome or consequence of each event. Write your questions in the center column. In the right column, record your predictions. As you read, verify your predictions.*

Event	Question	Prediction
1. Annie Johnson’s marriage ends, leaving her with two young sons.		
2. She needs to earn money to support herself and her family.		
3. She starts to sell her homemade meat pies to workers at the lumber mill and cotton gin.		
4. She is so successful selling pies that she builds a stall between the cotton gin and lumber mill.		