Anticipation Guide
Out of the Dust

Purpose
The anticipation guide, according to Frank Smith (1978) will allow the reader to make predictions about the text by eliminating possibilities that are unlikely. Also called reaction or prediction guides, the anticipation guide is a way to prepare a reader prior to a reading assignment by asking them to react to a series of statements related to the content of the material. Anticipation guides activate prior knowledge, create interest that stimulates discussion, and allows opportunities for both reading and writing.

Directions
Read the very first poem aloud to the students and then hand out the anticipation guide. For each saying, have the students mark either "A" for agree or "D" for disagree for both them and the author. For the author the students are predicting based upon what they heard in the first poem, what the author’s opinion is in the novel. Tell students that they must be able to defend their answers. Hold a class discussion about each statement and why students agreed and disagreed and why they thought the author would agree or disagree. There are not right or wrong answers at this point. As the class reads the book, refer back to the anticipation guides and discuss if the students answers are different now and why. Use this discussion as a spring board to talk about important themes such as identity, home, and overcoming adversity.