Probable Passage forces students to think about the characters, setting, conflict, resolution, and vocabulary of the story before they read the story. As students work through this process, they use what they know about story structure, think about vocabulary, look for casual relationships, and predict what they think will happen.

1. First, choose 8-14 key words. Think about words that fit in the boxes.
2. Then, model the strategy a few times. Students need to hear how you think through this strategy before they can do it well.
3. After reading the story, return to the worksheet to see which of your To Discover questions you can answer. Look to see if you now know the meaning of any words that are in the Unknown Words box. Then ask yourself, How would the author have arranged the words and how would that have changed the gist statement?
4. After you’ve modeled this with students, let them try it.