Bleich's Heuristic for Responding to Reading

This strategy has been used in the following ABLE lesson(s):
MTVs Poetry - Reading Strategy
http://mercury.educ.kent.edu/database/eureka/detail_lesson_general.cfm?LessonsID=165

Purpose:

To provide a framework for reflection about text. Students are asked to think about their responses to text two ways—affectively and associatively.

Materials:

Literary text works best, but certain nonfiction selections (e.g., current events, issues likely to cause emotional reaction) will also be good choices.

Procedure:

Students respond to these three questions [list from current sheet] in writing, after which discussion may (or may not) follow. Teachers may want to encourage students to make notes about their responses rather than developing full essays.

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 1. How did this piece affect you? (write and share)
- 2. Why did the piece affect you in this way? Consider reader-based and text-based reasons. (write and share)
- 3. What's the most important [word, words, idea, paragraph, etc.] in this piece? Why do you think so? (write and share)

References:

Bleich, D. (1978). *Subjective criticism*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. Rasinski, T., & Padak, N. (2000). *Effective reading strategies* (2nd. Ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.