

Instructional Questions to Support Reading Comprehension

1. Finding the Main Idea

What is the main idea of the story?

What is this story mainly about?

What would be another good title for this story?

What would be a good summary for this story?

What does the author probably want you to learn from the story?

2. Establishing Setting

Where does this story take place? What details support your answer?

Where and when do the events take place?

Where does most of the action in the story take place?

3. Recalling Facts and Details

Which of these are details/facts from the story?

Which of these is not a fact?

According to the story.....Who? What? When?

Where? How?

Which sentence is a fact mentioned in the story?

4. Distinguishing Between Fact and Non-fact

Which of these is not a fact from the story?

Which of these did not happen in the story?

Which of these are facts from the story?

Which of these sentences tells an opinion?

5. Recognizing Cause and Effect

What happened when _____?

According to the story, _____ did not _____
because.....

What caused _____?

Why did _____?

6. Understanding Sequence

What event happened at the beginning of the story?

What event happened at the middle of the story?

What event happened at the end of the story?

Which of these happened first?

What happened after _____?

Which of these did not happen in the story?

Which of these sentences would you most likely find at the beginning of the story?

Which of these sentences would most likely be at

the end of the story?

Which sentence would most likely come next?

7. Summarizing

What would be a good summary for this story?

Which of these best describes the meaning of the story?

Which of these would be the best summary of the story?

Finding Word Meaning in Context

In the story, the word _____ means.....

The word _____ as used in the phrase _____ means.....

The best meaning for the word _____ as used in the story is.....

From the story, you can tell _____ describes...

8. Drawing Conclusions/Making Inferences

What would probably _____?

What might have _____?

You can probably determine from _____ that...

Which of these probably not _____?

What will _____ probably do?

What is the problem (conflict) in the story?

Why might it be surprising that _____?

Why did the main character say, "_____?"
From the passage, you can tell that...

9. Making Predictions

What will _____ probably do next?

What do you think will probably happen next?

What would have happened if?

10. Understanding Character Traits (Feelings and Emotions)

Which pair of words best describes _____?

How does _____ feel about _____?

How did _____ feel when _____?

How did _____ feel at the beginning of the story?

Which of these best describes _____?

What words would you use to describe _____?

According to the story, how did _____ feel when _____?

You can tell that _____ is...

11. Analyzing Literary Forms

What makes this story a fable? Folktale?

Which of these sentences probably comes from a fiction book?

Which of these sentences probably comes from a

non-fiction book?

Which of these would best fit in the fable?

Which of these would most likely be the title of a fiction book?

12. Interpreting Figurative Language

In the story, the phrase _____ means...

The phrase _____ describes...

What words in the passage mean _____?

13. Vocabulary

In the story, the word _____ means.....

The best meaning for the word _____ is.....

Which word in the story is most closely related to _____?

Analogies

The suffix *-ful* means...

The prefix *re-* means...

These sample questions were copied from the Reading/Writing/language Assessment Appendix

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