



Questions to Support Children's Comprehension

Text

Style	What type of text/genre do you think this might be? Is it similar to another text you have read? What do you think it will be about? What do the title/pictures/cover suggest? Have you read any other books by this author/publisher?
Setting	Where do you think this story is set? What tells you this? When do you think the story was set? What makes you think this? What picture of the setting do you get from the description? Can you describe the setting? Is this setting familiar to you? Does it remind you of a place you have been? Does the setting change throughout the story?
Character Who?	Who are the characters in this story? Who is the most important character in the story? Who is telling the story? Do the characters remind you of anyone you know? Which character interested you the most? Why? What do you think the character might say or do? Were there any characters that you didn't like? Why does that character behave in that way? How do you think people would react to the character's behaviour? What would you have done in that situation? What do you think the character was thinking? What effect did a particular character have on the story? Did the characters stay the same throughout the story or did they change? How would the story change if the characters were different?
Plot What?	What do you think might happen next? What are the main events in the story? What is the problem in the story and how is it resolved? What was your favourite part of the story? Why? Was there anything that puzzled you? How does the ending of the story compare to what you thought might happen at the beginning?
Theme	What is the main idea/theme of the story? Does this text remind you of any others that you have read? Why and how? What do you think the author is trying to say? Are there any hidden messages in the story?

Word/sentence

Language	What does ... mean? Can you suggest another word that would mean the same thing? Can you find an example of adjective/adverb/noun? What happens when the author uses words in this way? What effect does the author create by using the phrase...? Why do you think the author chose to use those words? What punctuation has the author used and why has he used it? How else could this phrase/sentence have been written?
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Non-fiction

Purpose	Why would you use this type of text? Use this book to find out the answer to this question/find out about... Where else might you find information about this?
Style/ layout	Why is the text laid out in sections? What is the purpose of the headings/subheading? Why is some of the text in different fonts? Find an example of a caption/subheading/heading. What is the glossary for? Why are there diagrams/pictures/tables? What do the diagrams/pictures/tables show us? Use the glossary to find the meaning of... Use the contents page to help you find out about Where would I look to find out.../what should I do first to find out about...?
Word/ sentence	What punctuation is there in this text? Are there words you don't know the meaning of? How can you find out what they mean?