

KS1 Reading Question Stems

Vocabulary

- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By using this word, what effect has the author created?
- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this tell you about a character or setting?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/ frustrated/lonely/bitter etc? Can you find those words?
- Which words and /or phrases make you think/feel...?

Retrieval

- Where/when does the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like?
- Who was s/he/it?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?
- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What part of the story do you like best?
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Find, it. Prove it.
- How do the title/contents page/chapter headings/glossary/index... help me find information in this book?
- Which part of the text should I use to find...?
- Why has the author organised the information like this?

Summarise

- What happens first in the story?
- Use three sentences to describe the beginning, middle and end of this text?
- You've got 'x' words; sum up this story.
- Sort these sentences/paragraphs/chapter headings from the story
- Make a table/chart to show what happens in different parts of the story
- Why does the main character do 'x' in the middle of the story?
- How does the hero save the day in the story?

Inference

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about...?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder what the writer intended?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?

Prediction

- Look at the cover/title/first line/chapter headings...what do you think will happen next? How have the cover/title/first line/chapter headings...helped you come up with this idea?
- What do you think will happen to the goodie/baddie/main character? Why do you think this?
- What will happen next? Why do you think this? Are there any clues in the text?
- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? How will that effect what happens next?
- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?

Summarise	In this text
Giving a brief statement of	This text is about
the main points of the text.	The main event is
	The key events are
Predict	I think that because
Using evidence to write down	I think the character will do because
what you think will happen	I think the character will not do because
next.	
Vocabulary	The words mean
Suggesting what words,	It is a good name because
phrases or sentences mean.	This sentence tells you about
Retrieval	The story started
Choosing relevant evidence	The story ended
from the text to answer a	The character was
question.	It is important because
	The story took place in
	You can find
	The name of is
Inference/	This sentence tells you
Looking beyond the obvious	The character felt because
for what the writer is	They did not like it because
showing and not telling you.	They liked it because
	I know this because
	I think the character felt because
	The character thinks because