KS2 Reading Question Stems

Vocabulary

- The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this suggest about... (character/setting)?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- Which word most closely matches the meaning of the word x?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- Which of these words..... is a synonym for (choose a word from the text)?
- Find and copy one word meaning......
- Give the meaning of the word..... in this sentence
- Circle the correct option to complete this sentence (provide synonyms/phrases with similar meanings to replace at the end of the sentence)
- What does this phrase mean? (idiomatic or figurative language)

- What does the word 'x' tell you about 'y'?
- Find two or three ways that the writer tells you 'x'.
- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way 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?
- What do you think the writer meant by... 'x'?
- Which words do you think are most important? Why?
- Which words do you like the best? Why?
- The author makes an action/description 'like' something else. Why?
- The author states that 'x' is something it isn't. What is the effect of this? Why have they done this?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/ frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?
- What impression do these words... give you about... (use a synonym for the previous words)?

Retrieval

- Where/when does the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find ...?
- What is happening at this point in the text?
- What happened in the story?
- 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? Find evidence to support your opinion.
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Write down 3 things you are told about ... (character/setting/subject of the text)
- What was revealed at (beginning, middle, end, paragraph)
- Which of these statements is true/false?

Summarise

- What's the main point in this paragraph?
- Can you sum up what happens in these three/four/five... paragraphs?
- You've got 'x' words; sum up these paragraphs.
- Sort the information in these paragraphs. Do any of them deal with the same information?
- Make a table/chart to show the information in these paragraphs.
- Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? How many times is it mentioned?
- Write sub-headings for each paragraph

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

- 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?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural? Could this happen in this story?
- Which other author handles time in this way; e.g. flashbacks; dreams?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence how the story develops?
- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?
- Do you think x will happen? Tick one (from yes/no/maybe). Explain your answer with evidence from the text.

	Table
Summarise	In this text
Giving a brief statement of the	This text is about
main points of the text.	The main event is
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	This word means that
Suggesting what words,	This word suggests that
phrases or sentences mean.	This word tells you that
·	This sentence means that
	This sentence suggests that
	This phrase means that
	This phrase suggests that
	This description means that
	This description suggests that
Retrieval/	At the beginning of the story
Choosing relevant evidence	In the middle of the story
from the text to answer a	At the end of the story
question.	It is important because
	They have been called
	The character thinks that
	The character did because
Inference/	This suggests that
Looking beyond the obvious	I know this because
for what the writer is showing	I can tell that
and not telling you.	The character does because
55	The character is made to seem by
	This character is made to seem because
	The character felt because
	The character is because
	I know that because
	The impression I get is because
	The features of his/her character are because
	The character wanted to because
	The evidence suggests that