

Reading Comprehension Questions

For Parents to Ask

After reading with your child each night, help them understand the book by asking some questions. It is important students read the book independently, and then discuss the book after reading. Here are some questions to help facilitate discussions and understanding.

1. Could this story be true? Why or why not?
2. Where is the setting of this story?
3. Who is this story about? Tell about him or her.
4. What words would you use to describe the main character?
5. Do you like the main character? Why or why not?
6. Does the main character have a problem? What is it?
7. How is the problem solved? (What is the solution?)
8. What is the scariest, funniest, saddest, most interesting, or most funny part of the story? Read it aloud.
9. Do you like this story? Why or why not?
10. Do you know any real people who are like the characters in this story?
Who are the people? How are they the same? How are they different?
11. Did anything in the story happen that has happened to you? Tell about it.
12. Who is telling this story? Is there a narrator?
13. Why do you think the author chose the title for this story? How does it relate to the story?
14. Would you like to be a character from the story? Why or why not?
15. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?

Higher Level Comprehension Questions

Knowledge

1. Identify the characters in the story by making a list of all the characters.
2. When and where does the story take place?
3. Tell what the story is about.
4. Locate facts in the story and list the main facts.
5. Find the two most interesting sentences in the story.
6. Make a list of the words in the story you do not know.

Comprehension

1. Describe the characters in the story.
2. Describe how you think the main character feels in the beginning of the story. Describe the main character's feelings at the end of the story.
3. Explain the main idea of the story by retelling it in your own words.
4. Summarize the main facts in the story and discuss how they relate to the main idea of the story.
5. Locate sentences or phrases in the story you do not understand and infer the meanings.

Application

1. Give an example of someone you know who is like one of the characters in the story.
2. If you could have a conversation with one of the characters in the story, which character would you choose and what would you talk about?
3. Has anything in your life happened that is similar to the things that happened in the story?
4. What events in the story could not happen in real life?

5. Construct an illustration that shows the main characters in the story in a real life situation.
6. Find words or phrases in the story you do not currently use and write a short story using these words or phrases.

Analysis

1. Explain what part of the story was the most exciting to read and why.
2. Explain what part of the story was the funniest or the saddest and why.
3. Compare and/or contrast the facts in this story to facts in another story.
4. Examine and analyze the main character(s)' feelings at the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
5. Classify and/or categorize these feelings as the same or different.
6. Write a critique of the story, and highlight the main facts or main idea of the story.

Synthesis

1. What changes would you make to the story?
2. Predict how your changes would transform or change the story.
3. Generate a new title for the story. Explain your new title.
4. Create a new ending for the story.
5. Combine two characters in the story in order to invent a new character, and write a short story with this new character as the main character in your story.
6. Rearrange or change one main fact in the story. Does this change the entire story? How?

Evaluation

1. Was the main character(s) in the story good or bad? Support your opinion with words from the text.

2. What is your opinion of the story? Did you enjoy reading it? Explain.
3. Do you agree with all of the facts in the story? Explain.
4. Compare this story with other stories you have read in the past. Give evidence from the texts.
5. Would you read other stories like this story? Justify your opinion.
6. Rate the story on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the highest. Defend your rating.