

## Reading Questions

This bank of questions is grouped into different areas of reading. The questions are useful for helping your child to think about the text they are reading in a more detailed way. It is by no means an exhaustive list but can provide as a useful starting point for helping adults to question a child about their reading.

	Fiction	Non-Fiction
Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Where does the story take place?</li><li>-When did the story take place?</li><li>-What did the character look like?</li><li>-Where did the character live?</li><li>-Who are the key characters in the book?</li><li>-What happened in the story?</li><li>-What kinds of people in the story?</li><li>-Explain something that happened at a specific point in the story?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-What is the text about? What is the title of the text? Who is the author of the text?</li><li>-What kind of things would you expect to see in this book?</li><li>-Can you find examples of different features of this text type?</li><li>-Find something that interests you from the text. Explain why you chose that particular part.</li><li>-Where would you look to find out what a technical word means?</li><li>-What is on the cover of the book? What does this tell you about the content inside?</li></ul>
Infer, deduce and interpret	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-If you were going to interview this character/author, which questions would you ask?</li><li>-Which is your favourite part? Why?</li><li>-Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?</li><li>-What do you think would happen next if the story carried on past the ending of the book?</li><li>-Who was the storyteller? How do you know?</li><li>-Predict what you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this?</li><li>-Is this a place you could visit? Why/why not?</li><li>-How is the main character feeling at the start/middle/end of the story? Why do they feel that way? Does this surprise you?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Which parts of the book could help you find the information you need?</li><li>-When would you use the contents page in the book?</li><li>-When would you use the index page in the book?</li><li>-What sort of person do you think would use this book?</li><li>-When might someone use this book? Why?</li><li>-Can you suggest ideas for other sections or chapters to go into the book?</li><li>-Do you think the author of the book is an 'expert' about the topic of the book? Why/why not?</li></ul>
Structure and organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Were you surprised by the ending? Is it what you expected? Why/why not?</li><li>-What is the main event of the story? Why do you think this?</li><li>-How has the text been organised?</li><li>-Why do you think authors use short sentences?</li><li>-How did you think it would end/should end?</li><li>-Has the author used an unusual layout in the text? Is so, describe it and say why you think they did this?</li><li>-Has the author used a variety of sentence structures?</li><li>-Has the author put certain words in <b>bold</b> or <i>italic</i>? Why have they done this?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Can you find an example of a page you think has an interesting layout? Why did you choose it?</li><li>-Why have some of the words been written in <i>italics</i>?</li><li>-What are the subheadings for?</li><li>-Why have some of the words been written in bold?</li><li>-How does the layout help the reader?</li><li>-What is the purpose of the pictures?</li><li>-Can you find examples of words which tell you the order of something?</li><li>-What kind of a text is this? How do you know?</li></ul>

<p><b>Use of language</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Why did the author choose this title?</li> <li>-Do you want to read the rest of the text? How does the writer encourage you to read the rest of the text?</li> <li>-Can you find some examples of effective description? What makes them effective?</li> <li>-Which part of the story best describes the setting?</li> <li>-Can you find examples of powerful adjectives? What do they tell you about a character or setting?</li> <li>-Can you find examples of powerful adverbs? What do they tell you about a character, their actions or the setting?</li> <li>-Can you find examples of powerful verbs? What do they tell you about a character, their actions or the setting?</li> <li>-Find an example of a word you don't know the meaning of. Using the text around it, what do you think it means?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Why does this book contain technical vocabulary?</li> <li>-Find an example of a technical word. Read the sentence it's in. What do you think it means based on how it's used in the sentence?</li> <li>-Are there any examples of persuasive language?</li> <li>-Why do we need a glossary in a text?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Writers' purposes and viewpoint</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Can you think of another story that has a similar theme eg good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?</li> <li>-Why did the author choose this setting?</li> <li>-What makes this a successful story? What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?</li> <li>-How could the story be improved or changed for the better?</li> <li>-What was the most exciting part of the story? Explain your answer as fully as you can.</li> <li>-What genre is this story? How do you know?</li> <li>-What was the least exciting part of the story? Explain your answer as fully as you can.</li> <li>-When the author writes in short sentences, what does this tell you?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Why has the writer written this text?</li> <li>-Have you found any of the illustrations, diagrams or pictures useful? Why/why not? Try to explain fully</li> <li>-Why did the writer choose to present the information in the way they did?</li> <li>-How could the information be presented better?</li> <li>-What makes this text successful?</li> <li>-Are there any features that it hasn't got? Why do you think it doesn't have them?</li> <li>-Can you think of another text that is similar to this one? What are the similarities and differences between them?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social, cultural and historical links</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Do you know another story, which deals with the same issues eg social, cultural, moral issues?</li> <li>-Have you ever been in a similar situation to a character in the book? What happened?</li> <li>-How would you have felt in the same situation?</li> <li>-What would you have done differently to the character in a particular situation from the book?</li> <li>-How would you feel if you were treated in the same way as the main character?</li> <li>-What did the story make you think of?</li> <li>-Have you read any other stories that have similar characters to this one? If so, which story was it and what happened?</li> <li>-Do you think this book is trying to give the reader a message? If so, what is it?</li> </ul>	