

Reading

Here are some examples of questions (for parents) that you may want to use when talking to your child about the text that they have read. These are just some suggestions. You could create some of your own questions too.

Describe ..., e.g. the giant

What do you think is happening here?

What happened in the story?

What might this mean? e.g. proudly

Through whose eyes is the story told?

Which part of the story best describes the setting?

Which words/phrases tell you that ... e.g. the setting is spooky?

Which part tells you ..., e.g. they were annoyed that Goldilocks was in their house?

Why do ...? e.g. why do people need to look after their teeth?

Do you know any other story which has a similar theme, e.g. good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?

Can you think of another story which deals with the same issues, e.g. social, cultural, moral, issues?

Can you think of another author who handles time in this way? e.g. flashbacks, dreams

Which stories have openings like this?

What ideas are we given about ...? e.g. impact of weather

What does the author think about ...? e.g. looking after the countryside

What is your opinion? What evidence do you have to support your view?

Using evidence from the text can you tell me what you feel about ...?

Based on what you have read, what do you think about, e.g. global warming?

What would this character think about ...? (possibly a present day issue)

Look at the descriptions of 3 people. Who is most likely to buy this book?

In what kind of magazine would you expect to find an article like this?

Why were ...? e.g. the quotations included

In what ways is ... like ...? e.g. Pingu like a toddler

Which of the features of a star footballer could an ordinary person have?

Give two pieces of evidence that this is a modern/old/multicultural story?

How did you know ...? e.g. The story began "Once upon a time". How did you know there was likely to be a happy ending?

What is it about ... that tells you ...? e.g. what is it about the language choice that tells you it was written a long time ago?

What else might make ... the character sad/angry/frustrated?

What other reason could there be for ...?

What makes this a successful text? What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

Could it be better? Is it as good as ...?

Which is better and why?

Which text do you think is more/most effective?

Which text is giving the writer's own opinion? How do you know?

How does the layout help ...? e.g. paragraphs, sub-headings, font

What makes you think that?

What words give you that impression?

Can you explain why?

Do you agree with ...'s opinion?

I wonder what the writer intended by...

Explain why the writer has decided to ...?

I wonder what was in the author's mind here.

What do you think these words mean and why do you think the writer chose them?

How has the author used, e.g. adjectives, to make this character funny?

Why do you think the author chose this setting?

What evidence is there to support your view?

Does this remind you of any other books you have read and how? e.g. story structure, settings, images, layout, character

Why did ...? e.g. the boy slam the door when he left the room?

What does the word, e.g. slam, imply?

How did the character react to ...?

How do the pictures help you to understand, e.g. the behaviour of the characters?

Was this text trying to ...? e.g. persuade you to watch the film?

Does the author like ...? How do you know?

How were the purposes of the texts different?

What can you tell about the viewpoint of the author?

Could ... be described as ...?