

1

**Key understanding:** Identify the key understandings and insights you want students to learn from the text. (You may use this later to write an essential question.)

2

**Build understanding of the meaning:** Start with easier questions about what, where, why, and how, to help build understanding of the meaning of the passage.

**Primary  
Example**

Retell the story using time sequence words such as *first*, *next*, *then*, & *finally*.

**Elementary  
Example**

How does the main character change in the text?

3

**Vocabulary and text structure:** Craft questions about the most powerful academic words, and text structures (such as cause/effect, problem/solution, compare/contrast, sequence, etc.).

**Primary  
Example**

How did the author help us understand what *angle* means?

**Elementary  
Example**

What does the word *postal* mean in paragraph three? or Knowing the structure, what can we expect?

4

**Author's purpose and point of view:** Ask questions to draw the reader's attention to genre, author's purpose, point of view, and multiple perspectives.

**Primary  
Example**

Who tells the story?

**Elementary  
Example**

Whose point of view do we see? Whose point of view is not represented in the text? or Why does the author write this?

5

**Inference questions:** Challenge students to examine inferences on ideas or key details/arguments in the text.

**Primary  
Example**

What caused the bird to fly away? Why do you think that?

**Elementary  
Example**

What can we infer about what really happened to the main character? What evidence in the text supports your claim/ thinking?

6

**Opinion and intertextual questions:** Have students assert their opinions or make connections to other texts, and support their claims with evidence from the text.

**Primary  
Example**

Is Ramona Q's family a loving family? What in the books makes you think that?

**Elementary  
Example**

Think about both authors' attitudes towards conservation. Which author do you agree more with? Defend your thinking with evidence from the text.

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