

Year 4 - Reading comprehension prompts

Before reading:

- What do you think this story / text will be about?
- What might happen in the story?
- What genre will this text be? E.g. fantasy, horror.

Vocabulary

- What does this word/phrase/sentence tell you about the character/setting/mood?
- By writing..., what effect has the author created? Do you think they intended to?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used here? Why?
- How has the author made you feel by writing...? Why?

Retrieval

- Find the... in this text. Is it anywhere else?
- When/where is this story set? How do you know?
- Find the part of the story best describes the setting.
- What do you think is happening here? Why?
- What might this mean?

General

- What does the word... tell you about...? How?
- Find two ways that the author tells you...
- What do you think the author meant by...?
- Which words do you think are most important? Why?
- Which words do you like the most? Why?
- How has the author made you feel happy / sad angry / frustrated?

Inference

- What do you think.... means? Why do you think that? Could it be anything else?
- I think...; do you agree? Why / why not?
- Can you explain why...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think that the author chose them?

Prediction

- Can you think of another story with a similar theme? How do their plots differ?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think that this story will develop the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence the story?

Compare, contrast and comment

- What is similar/different about two characters? Did the author intend that?
- Explain why... did that.
- Describe different characters' reactions to the same event.
- Is this as good as...?
- Which is better and why?

Summarise

- What is the main point in this paragraph? Is it mentioned anywhere else?
- Sum up what has happened so far in X words/seconds or less.
- Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? Why?
- Do any sections/paragraphs deal with the same themes?