



ASPIRE • SUCCEED • LEAD

BRADFORD GIRLS'
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Co-educational up to 11, Girls only 11-16

Reading Skills Question Stems



Weather forecaster

The weather forecaster uses information from a text to say what will happen next. The weather forecaster uses information from the reporter and the detective.

FOCUS: predicting

Questions

- From the cover, what do you think this text is going to be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?
- What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?
- Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.
- Which of these options is most likely to happen next?
- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural? Could this happen in this story?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence how the story develops?
- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?



Reporter

The reporter finds the main facts in a text and writes them down.

FOCUS: retrieving

Questions

- How did...?
- How often...?
- Who had... ? Who is... ? Who did... ?
- What happened to... ?
- What does ... do?
- How ... is ...?
- What can you learn about ... from this section?
- Give one example of ...
- The story is told from whose perspective? / Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Where does the story take place?
- When did the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like?
- Who was s/he/it?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?
- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Write down three things you are told about X.
- Which of these drawings best represents...?
- How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it?
How do you know?



Translator

The translator knows and can explain what individual words in a text mean.

FOCUS: vocabulary

Questions

- What does the word ... mean in this sentence?
- Find and copy a word/two words/a phrase which means ...
- Which word in the text describes...?
- Which word means the same as...?
- Find and copy one/two words which tell/show you...
- What does this word or phrase tell you about ...?
- Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why?
- Which of the words best describes the character/setting/mood etc?
- Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this?
- Give two things that the word ... suggests about ...
- Which word most closely matches the meaning of the word ...? Circle the correct option.
- Give the meaning of the word ... in this sentence.
- Why do you think ... is repeated in this section?
- What does ... suggest about...?
- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... (character/setting/mood)?
- In the story, ... is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this tell you about ... (character/setting)?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases... to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy/sad/angry/frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?



Detective

The detective works things out (draws conclusions) based on clues in a text.

FOCUS: inferring

Questions

- Why was... feeling... ?
- Why did ... happen?
- Why did ... say ... ?
- Can you explain why ... ?
- How does ... make you feel?
- Find and copy a group of words which show that ...
- How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?
- How do the descriptions of ... show that they are ... ?
- How can you tell that ... ?
- What impression of ... do you get from these paragraphs?
- What voice might these characters use?
- What was ... thinking when ... ?
- Who is telling the story?
- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about...?
- What evidence is there of/that ... ?
- Can you explain why...?
- Why did X happen?
- Why does X do this?
- What are three ways that X shows ... ?
- Explain what X (a phrase/clause with challenging vocabulary) suggests about ... ?
- How is X made to seem ... ?
- The person did not seem to be X. How can you tell this from his/her actions?
- Give one piece of evidence that shows ...
- What does this paragraph tell you about ... ?
- What is the main message of the story?



Researcher

The researcher finds only the most important information in a text.

FOCUS: summarising

Questions

- Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?
- What happened after ... ?
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Use three sentences to describe the beginning, middle and end of this text.
- You've got 'x' words; sum up this story/these paragraphs.
- Sort these sentences/paragraphs/chapter headings from the story.
- Make a table/chart to show what happens in different parts of the story.
- Why does the main character do 'x' in the middle of the story?
- How does the hero save the day in the story?
- In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?
- What's the main point in this paragraph?
- Can you sum up what happens in these three/four/five... paragraphs?
- Sort the information in these paragraphs. Do any of them deal with the same information?
- Make a table/chart to show the information in these paragraphs.
- Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? How many times is it mentioned?