

Supporting Reading Comprehension Skills in Year 5

Deduction, retrieval, clarification and explanation

Can you find a word that means ... ?
Can you find a word that suggests ... ?
Tell me 3 things you know about ...
Why did happen?
What might this word mean? Could you work it out using the context of the sentence, its root word or a dictionary?
What did do? Why? What was the consequence of their actions?
What did you find out at the end?

Imagination

Draw a picture which represents what you've just read.
What did you see in your head when you read this? Close your eyes and explain what you can see.
What key words spring to mind which describe the image in your head?

Forming an opinion

What do you especially like / dislike?
Was the author successful in frightening you/making you laugh ... ?
Did you like the author's style or writing? Why? Why not?
Would you read it again?
Would you recommend the book to somebody else?

Connections, patterns and comparisons

Have you met this character before previously in the story?
Is this character familiar?
Where else in the story does this appear / happen?
Is this book similar to any others you've read?
Have you read any books by this author before?
Does this text remind you of anything else?

Inference and prediction

Always find evidence from the text to support answers.
How can you tell that feels ... ?
How do you know ?
Why did happen?
What evidence is there in the text that makes you think ... ?
What does this quote "... " suggest about ... ?
What will happen? Why?
Will the character ... ?

Authorial intent

What impression do you get from the way the author has done ?
Why do you think the author included ... ?
How does ... make you feel?
What is the effect of this word/sentence?
Which part is the funniest? The most frightening? The most harrowing? What made you react that way?
You've told me that you feel ... what words gave you that impression?
Why did you choose to read the character's voice that way?
What's the most important word? What's the most important sentence?
How does the way the text is laid out help you as a reader?
Why has the author put this part in this place?
What words and phrases help to link the text together?
What helps the writing to flow?

Summarising

What did the story teach you? Is there a moral or lesson?
In one sentence, tell me what happened in this paragraph / chapter / text.
Can you use the main character, setting and key events to summarise the story?