

# The big 50: Inference, prediction and comparison questions

1. Do you know any other story which has a similar theme, e.g. good over evil, weak over strong?
2. Can you think of another story which deals with the same issues? (e.g. bullying)
3. Can you think of another book that describes time in this way? (e.g. flashbacks, dreams)
4. Which other stories have openings like this?
5. How does the layout help ...? (e.g. paragraphs, sub-headings, font)
6. What makes you think that?
7. Which words give you that impression?
8. Can you explain why?
9. Do you agree with ...'s opinion?
10. I wonder what the writer intended?
11. Explain why the writer has decided to ...?
12. I wonder what was in the author's mind here?
13. What do you think these words mean and why do you think the writer chose them?
14. How has the author used, e.g. adjectives, to make this character funny?
15. Why do you think the author chose this setting?
16. What evidence is there to support your view?
17. Does this remind you of any other books you have read and how? (e.g. story structure, settings, images)
18. Why did ...? e.g. the girl slam the door when she left the room?
19. What does the word, e.g. slam, imply?
20. How did the character react to ...?
21. How do the pictures help you to understand, e.g. the behaviour of the characters?
22. Was this text trying to ...? (e.g. persuade you to watch the film?)
23. Does the author like ...? How do you know?
24. How were the purposes of the texts different?
25. What can you tell about the viewpoint of the author?
26. Could ... be described as ...? e.g. could Danny be described as a 'hero'?
27. Which ideas are we given about ...? (e.g. impact of flooding)
28. What does the author think about ...? (e.g. looking after pets)
29. What is your opinion? What evidence do you have to support your view?
30. Using evidence from the text can you tell me how (character) feels about ...?
31. Based on what you have read, what do you think about, e.g. global warming?
32. What would this character think about ...? (possibly a present day issue)
33. Look at the descriptions of these two people. Who is most likely to want to read this book?
34. In which kind of magazine would you expect to find an article like this?
35. Why were ...? (e.g. the ellipsis used)
36. In what ways is ... like ...? (e.g. Jake like an adult)
37. Which of the features of (character) could an ordinary person have?
38. Give two reasons why you might say this is a, e.g. traditional tale?
39. 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?)
40. 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?)
41. What else might make ... the character sad/angry/frustrated etc?
42. What other reason could there be for ...? (e.g. the town centre being deserted?)
43. What makes this a successful text?
44. What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
45. Does the image/ metaphor/ simile work?
46. Could this writing be any better?
47. Is (this writing) as good as ...?
48. Which is better and why?
49. Which text do you think is more/most effective?
50. Which text is giving the writer's own opinion? How do you know?