

Birmingham City Schools

Use these “stems” to prepare questions that get students to exercise thinking. These reading stems are quite **similar** to questions based on Common Core and ACT Aspire examples.

Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.

1. Which word best describes the meaning of _____?
2. Which word in paragraph ____ helps the reader know what ____ means?
3. What phrase means the opposite of _____ as used in paragraph _____?
4. What does the word _____ mean in paragraph x?
5. Which is a synonym for _____ in paragraph x?
6. What is the base word for _____?
7. Which of these is a synonym of _____ as used in the sentence?

Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.

1. What is paragraph x mainly about?
2. Which sentence from the selection best shows?
3. How can you best remember what this article is about?
4. How could a reader best determine _____?
5. After reading the title, what should you expect to learn from this selection?
6. What question does the article answer?

Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.

1. Which question is best answered by information in paragraph x?
2. What happened before reason _____?
3. What is the best summary of the selection _____?
4. What is the best summary of the selection _____?
5. Which of these best describes the problem in the passage?
6. How do _____'s feelings change from the beginning to the end?
7. Which words best describe _____'s character?
8. What is _____'s biggest problem in the story?
9. What would be another good title for this passage?
10. This story mainly tells _____.
11. What would be another good title for this passage?
12. This story mainly tells _____.
13. What does the author mean in this sentence?
14. Which of these is an opinion?
15. According to paragraph x, what is _____ doing?

Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.

1. How does the author organize paragraphs x through x?
2. What is the tone of paragraph x?
3. Why is paragraph _____ important in this selection?
4. Describe the author's opinion of _____.
5. How does the author organize the information in this article?
6. What is an example of a simile?
7. What was the author's purpose in writing this passage?
8. What term best describes this passage?
9. What is the genre of _____?
10. In this poem, which point of view does the poet use?
11. What does the title of the passage suggest?
12. You would most likely find an article like this in a book about _____.

