Give/explain the meaning of words in context

• What does this… word/phrase/sentence… tell you about… character/setting/mood etc?

• Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?

• The writer uses words like … to describe …. What does this tell you about a character or 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?

Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

• Where/When does the story take place?

• What did s/he/it look like? Who are the characters in the book?

• What happened in the story?

• Which part of the story best describes the setting? What words and /or phrases do this?

• What part of the story do you like best? What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

• 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 other author handles time in this way; e.g. flashbacks; dreams?

• 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?

Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole

• Explain why a character did something.

• Explain a character's different/changing feelings throughout a story. How do you know?

• What are the clues that a character is liked/disliked/envied/feared/loved/hated etc…?

• What is similar/different about two characters?

• What is the story (theme) underneath the story? Does this story have a moral or a message?

Make comparisons within the text.

• Describe different characters' reactions to the same event in a story.

• How is it similar to …? How is it different to …? Is it as good as …? Which is better and why?

• Compare and contrast different character/settings/themes in the text