

## Comprehension Skills

### **Explain what has been read (summarise and sequence)**

Explain:

- events,
- characters,
- moods,
- use of language,
- way in which the text is set out
- the whole text or part of the text

*E.g. Why do you think Ralph is always grumpy?  
How are these sections linked?  
What is the author's point of view?*

### **Justify answers by referring to the text**

Pose questions but ask for evidence from the text that needs to be included as part of the answer. Ask for an explanation of why and how the evidence is answering the question.

### **Summarise the text: by explaining the main idea of the:**

- paragraph
- chapter
- the whole story
- character
- event
- theme
- setting.

### **Inference question stems:**

- What does the word/phrase/sentence imply about ..... ?
- (character/setting/mood?)
- Why did .....?
- How did .....?
- Why is ..... important?
- How was ..... different after .....?
- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How can you tell that?
- What does he think/feel?
- How do you know?
- Can you explain why?



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### **Make predictions and ask own questions:**

- Whilst reading, ask the reader to predict what might happen e.g. from title, front cover, first part of story, a cliff hanger, chapter ending
- Read a short extract to them and ask them to write what happens next
- Formulate questions raised by the text

### **Other comprehension activities to be used while reading:**

- Find synonyms and antonyms for specific words
- Identify word classes
- Find related / linked words (adjectives, adverbs, verbs)