

Aligning Your Teaching to the Common Core Just Got Easier.

100 Text Dependent Question Stems and Samples...Print and Go!
Your K-12 Informational and Narrative Text Resource

Dear Common Core Implementer,

I don't know about you, but I'm finding that there's TOO MUCH information on what to do, what to use and how to assess it with the Common Core Standards. It's overwhelming!

But if you know me, you know that I'm always looking for ways to help cut through the mire and muck of those overly complicated processes in education – it just doesn't have to be confusing! This surely doesn't mean that I'm "dumbing it down" or over-simplifying, it just means that I'm highly motivated by how we get information and practices, like the Common Core, into the hands of teachers. And, in turn, in the hands of kids.

I've seen that teachers are really excited about the idea that they can find a resource and literally use it tomorrow in their classrooms. And that's why we created this "grab and go" guide for you.

Print it. And go use it with students tomorrow.

The research on the Common Core and the practices behind it strongly support that text dependent questions and questioning techniques are central to students deeply reading, understanding, discussing and writing about highly complex text. By posing text-dependent questions, you require students to:

- Root their responses in the text they're reading
- Rely upon their 'close reading' skills in their responses
- Move beyond simple recall, to deep analysis of text
- Continually refer to what they've read, not just background or outside sources
- Read and manage increasingly difficult pieces of text

Make no mistake: These aren't sissy kind of questions! And using them will require you to do some prep to adjust these frames for the text you're using, but the results will knock your socks off!

I believe that our success with the Common Core will come one step at a time...and this is a very important start!

Here's to fantastic teaching and tons of learning – thank you so much for purchasing this resource!

Jill



	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
1.	The title of this story is _____. Explain which words from the title indicate _____.	The title of this story is Clifford's Big Adventure. Explain which words in the title indicate Clifford had a busy day.
2.	What phrase did the author use to describe _____? Explain in your own words what that phrase means.	What phrase did the author use to describe Miss Nelson's class? Explain in your own words what that phrase means.
3.	Why would the author use the simile on page ____ to describe _____? Simile: "_____."	Why would the author use the simile on page 90 to describe how Shelia saw the incident in the hallway? Simile: "Shelia didn't see what happened in the hallway because she was as blind as a bat."
4.	Reread page _____. What does the author want the reader to understand about _____ character at the end of the story?	Reread page 199. What does the author want the reader to understand about Max's character at the end of the story?
5.	How are _____ different from _____? (Pgs. ____ and ____)	How are trees that grow in cool climates different from trees that grow in warmer climates? (Pgs. 84 and 92)
6.	What idea does the author leave us with on page ____? How does this fit with the rest of the text?	
7.	How does the author let you know the story shifts back from _____ to the present time of the story?	How does the author let you know the story shifts back from 1950 to the present time of the story?
8.	How did _____ feel about _____?	How did Ricky feel about Rob moving away at the end of the year?
9.	How did _____ when he _____? Cite evidence from the text.	How did Jane feel when she didn't get the part in the play? Cite evidence from the text.
10.	Reread page _____. Using the text, highlight or identify two problems that arose.	Reread page 61. Sarah and Helen wanted to sell lemonade on Sunday. Using the text, highlight or identify two problems that arose.

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
11.	Where did _____ get _____ and why? (pg. ____)	Where did Jake get the baseball and why?
12.	Cite evidence from the text that tells you that _____. (pg. ____)	Cite evidence from the text that tells you that Jake likes the game of baseball.
13.	What does the word _____ mean in the _____ sentence on page ____.	What does the word <i>humanely</i> mean in the second sentence on page 5?
14.	Describe how _____ (pg. ____)	Describe how the neighbor responds to Alice bringing her cookies. (page ____)
15.	Why does _____ mumble _____. (pg. ____)	<i>Why does Sue mumble "Not again!"? (page ____)</i>
16.	What detail does the author include that shows _____? (pg. ____)	<i>What detail does the author include that shows the children were sorry they broke the window? (page ____)</i>
17.	What is _____ when he _____? Cite evidence from the text. (pg. ____)	<i>What is Mark's reaction when his son came home with a terrible report card? Cite evidence from the text. (page ____)</i>
18.	What does _____ do to let you know she is _____? Cite evidence from the text.	<i>What does the teacher do to let you know she is angry at the class? Cite evidence from the text. (page ____)</i>
19.	How does _____ feel when _____? How does the author help the reader know _____ feelings? (pg. ____)	<i>How does Julia feel when she finds out her friends were talking about her? How does the author help the reader know Julia's feelings? (pg. ____)</i>
20.	How has/have _____ changed by the end of the story?	<i>How has the behavior of the cheerleaders changed by the end of the story?</i>

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
21.	What is the problem on page ____? List all the ways the setting impacts the problem.	
22.	<i>Why did the author spend all of pg ____ explaining _____. Yet, he only takes one paragraph to explain _____. If both are important to the selection, then why the difference?</i>	<i>Why did the author spend all of pg 180 explaining photosynthesis. Yet, he only takes one paragraph to explain migration. If both are important to the selection, then why the difference?</i>
23.	<i>Why do you suppose the author chose a chart and a map to share this information about the aging process of trees. Would you have chosen a different form to share the same information? Why or why not?</i>	<i>Why do you suppose the author chose a _____ and a _____ to share this information about _____. Would you have chosen a different form to share the same information? Why or why not?</i>
24.	<i>Why was it necessary to _____? (page ____)</i>	<i>Why was it necessary to only take the items they most needed with them on their long journey? (page 29)</i>
25.	<i>How do you know that _____? (page ____)</i>	<i>How do you know that Bill didn't want Amy to be on the football team? (page 56)</i>
26.	<i>What does the author tell us about _____? Why is he telling us this now?</i>	<i>What does the author tell us about how Pluto was determined to no longer be a planet? Why is he telling us this now?</i>
27.	<i>How does the author describe _____?</i>	<i>How does the author describe the dress Lisa wore to the dance?</i>
28.	<i>Earlier in the text the author told us that _____. Give examples of this "thinking" from this part of the text.</i>	<i>Earlier in the text the author told us that the journey took 3 months by wagon. Give examples of this "thinking" from this part of the text.</i>
29.	<i>Compare _____ to _____.</i>	<i>Compare the journey traveling across the county in a wagon to the journey traveling across the country by car.</i>

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
30.	What is the problem on page ____? List all the ways the setting impacts the problem.	
31.	Why are the words at the top of page ____ printed in large, dark type? (page ____)	
32.	<i>Why did the author use and repeat the words “_____”?</i>	<i>Why did the author use and repeat the words “Hip Hip Hooray”?</i>
33.	<i>What can we learn from the map and the text on pages ____? After looking at the map, how can you tell _____?</i>	<i>What can we learn from the map and the text on page 32? After looking at the map, how can you tell where the Oregon Trail began?</i>
34.	<i>At the end of this true story, the author tells us _____? What was the purpose of this detail?</i>	<i>At the end of this true story, the author tells us that the mom looked in the store as she walked by. What was the purpose of this detail?</i>
35.	<i>_____ means _____. Using evidence from the text, what _____? (Pgs. _____)</i>	<i>Huddle means to crowd together. Using evidence from the text, why does the family huddle together in the corner of the room during the tornado? (Pgs. 90 - 91)</i>
36.	<i>Reread page _____. Describe _____.</i>	<i>Reread page 72. Describe why the author used the vivacious to describe John.</i>
37.	<i>Describe the difference between _____ and _____. How does this _____? (Pg. _____)</i>	<i>Describe the difference between living on an island and living in the mountains. How does this help you compare and contrast the two places? (Pg. _____)</i>
38.	<i>Read the 3rd paragraph on page _____. What does the word _____ mean? Can the word _____ be used in another way?</i>	<i>Read the 3rd paragraph on page 62. What does the word curtail mean? Can the word curtail be used in another way?</i>
39.	<i>Reread page _____. What happened to _____?</i>	<i>Reread page 67. What happened to the glass vase on the counter?</i>

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
40.	Why did _____?	Why did Josh choose to put on his red jacket?
41.	What does _____ mean by "_____"?	What does Bill mean by "It's going to be a long ride home"?
42.	On page _____ cries out, "_____?" Why does she say this?	On page 102 Marie cries out, "Don't show your face around here again?" Why does she say this?
43.	What do you think _____ is like in _____? Look for clues on pages _____.	What do you think Mrs. Jones is like at home? Look for clues on pages 72-73.
44.	Does the word _____ in the _____ sentence of the story mean "_____" or "_____"? How do you know? (Pg. ____)	Does the word crane in the first sentence of the story mean "a bird" or "a machine used to move large objects"? How do you know? (Pg. ____)
45.	What language tells us _____ is the narrator? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.	What language tells us Janelle is the narrator? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
46.	_____ uses the word _____ to express his thoughts. What does the word _____ mean to _____ in this story? How do you know?	Marie uses the word <i>melancholy</i> to express her thoughts. What does the word <i>melancholy</i> mean to Marie in this story? How do you know?
47.	Reread the _____ paragraph on page _____. What words and phrases does the author use to help you see _____?	Reread the second paragraph on page 62. What words and phrases does the author use to help you see the hot air balloon flying in the air?
48.	What did you learn about _____ when he says, "_____"?	What did you learn about Amelia Earhart when she says, "Never interrupt someone doing what you said couldn't be done?"
49.	What did _____ mean when he said _____? Use this phrase and the illustrations to describe _____ feelings and behavior at this time?	What did John mean when he said it was raining cats and dogs? Use this phrase and the illustrations to describe John's feelings and behavior at this time?

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
50.	What decision did _____ make on page ____?	What decision did George Washington make on page 132?
51.	Reread page _____. Where is _____? How does the author describe the setting?	Reread page 13. Where is Neverland? How does the author describe the setting?
52.	Who lives in _____? (Pg. __)	Who lives in Neverland? (Pg. 14)
53.	_____ means to _____. What did it mean when _____? (Pg. ____)	<i>Crude</i> means in a natural or raw state. What did it mean when the author described Abe Lincoln's house as a crude log cabin in Kentucky? (Pg. 26)
54.	What does the author tell us about _____?	What does the author tell us about how Michael Jordan prepared for a game?
55.	Reread pages _____. What kinds of things did _____ do?	Reread pages 125-129. What kinds of things did the teachers do at school?
56.	How does the picture on page _____, help the reader understand _____?	How does the picture on page 12 help the reader understand Abraham Lincoln's childhood home?
57.	Why did _____ repeat the phrase "_____"?	Why did the Little Red Hen repeat the phrase, "Then I'll do it myself."
58.	On pages _____ the author mentions "_____." What was it and how was it used _____?	On pages 54 the author mentions "a hidden treasure chest." What was it and how was it used on the ship?
59.	Reread pages _____. What is the importance of the author's reference to _____? How did it impact _____?	Reread pages 48 - 49. What is the importance of the author's reference to the time of year? How did it impact what the children did outside?

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
60.	The author wrote on page ____, “_____.” How does this describe _____?	The author wrote on page 3, “The man who is often times called the best president grew up in a crude log cabin in Kentucky.” How does this describe Lincoln’s home?
61.	The story is told by _____. What details in the story suggest that _____ might have been there?	The story is told by a third person narrator. What details in the story suggest that the narrator might have been there?
62.	Reread page _____. An autobiography is the story of a person’s life written by that person. Who is the story about?	Reread page 123. An autobiography is the story of a person’s life written by that person. Who is the story about?
63.	What is the setting of the play _____? What interesting clues into the story does the author give when he describes the setting?	What is the setting of the play <i>Romeo and Juliette</i> ? What information does Shakespeare give about the story during the explanation of the setting?
64.	Look at the illustrations on page _____. Why did the author and illustrator _____?	Look at the illustrations on page 54. Why did the author and illustrator introduce all the characters before the story began?
65.	How does _____ change how she ____ once she _____? How does the author get his point across?	How does Rob change how he treats Sarah once he gets to know her? How does the author get this point across?
66.	Why does _____ say _____?	Why does Thomas say “This time of year is the happiest,” for him and his family?
67.	_____ means _____. On page ____, the _____ says, “_____.” To what is he referring?	<i>Conspiracy</i> means a secret plan by a group to do something harmful. On page 35, John says, “It is a regular <i>conspiracy</i> .” To what is he referring?
68.	_____ just found out _____. Look at the illustrations on pages ____-____. What detail from the text supports why _____?	Henry just found out he is going to the State Fair. Look at the illustrations on pages 55 - 56. What detail from the text supports why Henry is smiling in the illustration?
69.	How will _____ affect _____? Does the author give clues about this in the text?	How will saving Melody from drowning affect Tim’s life? Does the author give clues about this in the text?

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
70.	How did _____ solve _____ problem?	How did Gary's idea about school solve Hillary's problem?
71.	What does _____ mean in her poem by "_____?"	What does the cow mean in her poem by "All that I have done I have done for the sheep?"
72.	What does the word "_____" mean in Bill's speech "_____"? Why did the author choose this particular word, do you think?	What does the word <i>proposition</i> mean in Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address? Why did he use this particular word, do you think?
73.	In informational text, an author usually breaks the text into small sections. Above each section he places a heading to tell what the section will be about. There are _____ headings in _____. List all of the headings used on pages 92-104, and explain how they are related to the title _____.	In informational text, an author usually breaks the text into small sections. Above each section he places a heading to tell what the section will be about. There are 10 headings in Jackie Robinson. List all of the headings used on pages 92-104, and explain how they are related to the title <i>Jackie Robinson</i> .
74.	Based on the illustration and the context clues on page _____, define the word _____. Why is _____ the word the author used, do you think?	Based on the illustration and the context clues on page 78, define the word giggle. Why is 'giggle' the word the author used, do you think?
75.	The author writes that _____. Give at least three _____ listed on page _____.	The author writes that there are many different ways to travel. Give at least three forms of transportation listed on page 113.
76.	Look at the photographs on pages _____; notice that each photograph has words under it. These words are called captions. Explain the purpose of captions. Why is it important to read the captions in this selection?	Look at the photographs on pages 184. Notice that each photograph has words under it. These words are called captions. Explain the purpose of captions. Why is it important to read the captions in this selection?
77.	Reread the first paragraph on page _____. Give two examples from the text of something _____.	Reread the first paragraph on page 47. Give two examples from the text of something that happens in governments around the world.
78.	Look at the photograph on page _____. How do you know _____?	Look at the photograph on page 18. How do you know that the athlete in the picture has played their sport for a long time?

79.	On page ____ the heading is “_____.” What does the author want the reader to understand about _____?	On page 72 the heading is “Civil War.” What does the author want the reader to understand about how the Civil War began?
-----	--	--

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
80.	Look on page ____ and notice the heading “ ____.” What does the author mean by “ ____”? Give three examples of ____.	Look on page 89 and notice the heading “The End of the Civil War.” What does the author mean by “The End of the Civil War”? Give three examples of what Lincoln did to bring the war to an end.
81.	Using the illustration and the text on page ____, explain in your own words the term “ ____”.	Using the illustration and the text on page 45, explain in your own words the term <i>hypocrite</i> .
82.	At the end of the story the author writes, “ ____.” Explain in your own words what she means by this statement.	At the end of the story the author writes, “We were all lucky to have spent the summer on the ranch.” Explain in your own words what she means by this statement.
83.	In the caption and the text on page ____, the author uses the phrase “ ____.” What ____? Why does the author use this phrase under the heading “ ____”?	In the caption and the text on page 101, the author uses the phrase “training camps.” What are training camps? Why does the author use this phrase under the heading “Where They Train”?
84.	Look at ____ in the photographs on pages ____. Now look at ____ in the photographs on page ____. Write one way ____ on these pages are alike and one way they are different. Explain how the author lets you know this.	Look at the animals in the photographs on pages 27 - 32. Now look at the animals in the photographs on page 47. Write one way the animals on these pages are alike and one way they are different. Explain how the author lets you know this.
85.	Based on the photographs and text on page ____, in your own words define the word ____.	Based on the photographs and text on page 89, in your own words define the word teacher.
86.	Reread the heading and text on page ____. ____? Explain your answer, citing two specific portion of the text.	Reread the heading and text on page 197. How did slavery end? Explain your answer, citing two specific portion of the text.
87.	On page ____, the author writes, “ ____.” What does the author mean by the phrase, “ ____”? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.	On page 33, the author writes, “The little boy was working as busy as a bee.” What does the author mean by the phrase, “busy as a bee”? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
88.	Look at the illustrations on page ____. Describe how the illustrations help the reader better understand the text.	
89.	Why does the author tell us ____?	Why does the author tell us time is a thief? (Pg. 70)

	Text Dependent Question Frame	Sample Question
90.	Reread page _____. How is this relevant to the main idea of the text? How does the author emphasize this?	
91.	Use the information on page _____ to define _____. Why is _____ important?	Use the information on page 73 to define pollen. Why is pollen important?
92.	What do you learn about _____ from this illustration and caption?	What do you learn about the abyss from this illustration and caption?
93.	Look at the diagram on page _____. Use information from the text on page _____ to describe what is happening in this diagram.	
94.	What are the main jobs of _____? (Pg. ____)	What are the main jobs of honey bees? (Pg. 81)
95.	How do _____? How do _____? (Pg. 11)	How do flowers benefit from bees? How do bees benefit from flowers? (Pg. 81)
96.	Look at the diagram on page _____. Use the diagram and the text on pages ____ and ____ to define _____.	Look at the diagram on page 84. Use the diagram and the text on pages 84 and 85 to define aorta.
97.	Why does the author show us _____ along the left-hand side of page _____? How does contrasting these give us more insight into the topic?	Why does the author show us an acorn and oak tree along the left-hand side of page _____? How does contrasting them give us more insight into the topic?
98.	After looking at the pictures on pages ____ and ____ and reading the text on pages ____ and ____, what have we learned about the setting?	
99.	What evidence on pages ____ indicates things have changed in the story?	
100.	Why is this story called, “_____?” What are three particular sections of the text that relate specifically to the title?	Why is this story called, “A Penny For Your Thoughts?” What are three particular sections of the text that relate specifically to the title?