

# Text-Dependent Questions



1

**Key understanding of whole text:** Identify the key understandings and insights you want students to learn from the text.

**Example**

What is the gist of the passage?

**Example**

What is the main claim of the text? What evidence supports that claim?

2

**Build understanding of the meaning:** Start with easier questions about what, where, why, and how, to help build understanding of the meaning of the passage. Key in on important details.

**Example**

What are potential hazards of bats according to this article?

**Example**

What are potential benefits of bats according to this passage?

3

**Vocabulary and text structure:** Craft questions about the most powerful academic words, and text structures (such as cause/effect, problem/solution, compare/contrast, sequence, etc.).

**Example**

Why did the author use words such as "blood-slurping" and "dive-bombed"?

**Example**

How does the author transition between the two viewpoints?

4

**Author's purpose and point of view:** Ask questions to draw the reader's attention to genre, author's purpose, point of view, and multiple perspectives.

**Example**

Who is the intended audience for this article? How do you know?

**Example**

There are two distinct view points represented in this article. Which view point do you think the author believes? Support your answer with evidence.

5

**Inference questions:** Challenge students to examine inferences on ideas or key details/arguments in the text.

**Example**

How would this article be different if Oliva lived in Arizona instead of Panama?

**Example**

How would this article be different if the author could not cite the scientific advances that had already been made about the study of bats?

6

**Opinion and intertextual questions:** Have students assert their opinions or make connections to other texts, and support their claims with evidence from the text.

**Example**

Identify examples of appeals to ethos, pathos, and logos.

**Example**

Which argument is more compelling: vampire bats are a menace and should be exterminated, or vampire bats have value to humans and should be preserved? Defend your answer.