# Low and high cognitive questions

Examples for reading comprehension

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| Question Type | Examples |
| Type 1 (Low order, closed)Knowledge - retention of terminology, facts, conventions, methodologies, structures, principles list, define, describe, show, name, what, when | * Name all the characters in the story.
* List five facts from the story.
* When does the story take place?
* Where does the story take place?
* Which character appears first in the story?
* How does the story end?
* From what you read in the story, how would you describe what the main character looks like?
* How would you describe the setting using facts you read in the story?
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| Type 2 (Low order, closed)Comprehension - grasping of meaning, translation, extrapolation, interpretation of facts, making comparisonssummarise, compare and contrast, estimate, discuss | * What is the story about?
* How did the main character feel at the beginning of the story?
* How did the main character feel at the end of the story?
* Think of a main event in the story. Why did it happen?
* Why does the story have this title?
* What is the main event in the story?
* Explain why this picture may have been used.
* What happened before/after this picture?
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| Type 3 (High order, closed)Application - problem solving, usage of information in a new wayapply, calculate, complete, show, solve, modify | * Think of a situation that occurred to a person in your story and decide whether you would have done the same thing as or something different. What might you have done?
* Give some examples of people who have had the same problems or have done the same kind of thing as the person in your story.
* What are some things this character/s might do if he came to your school during reading?
* What would you do if you could go to the place where the main character lives?
* What would the main character do if he came to your house to visit?
* If you had to cook a meal for the characters in the story, what would you cook?
* If you met the main character in the story on the street, what would you talk about?
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| Type 4 (Low order, open)Analysis - making inferences and supporting them with evidence, identification of patternsseparate, arrange, classify, explain  | * What part of the story was the funniest; or the most exciting; or the saddest?
* Tell what things happened in the story that couldn’t have happened in real life?
* Which of the things in the story were true and which were opinions; whose opinion?
* Organise the story into parts - what would be good titles for each of the parts?
* What could you do that was just like what the person in the story did?
* Find five words in the story that begin with the same sound.
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| Type 5 (High order, open)Synthesis - derivation of abstract relations, prediction, generalisation, creation of new ideasintegrate, modify, substitute, design, create, What if..., formulate, generalise, prepare | * How could you tell the story from an animal’s point of view?
* What would you put into a picture about the story? What would you add to the picture that was not in the story?
* What would be the best was to tell this story if not in a book?
* What is another possible ending to the story that is different from the one that the author wrote?
* Pretend you are the main character. What might you write in your diary about this day?
* How would you rewrite the story briefly, changing someone or something in it (for example, substitute a dog for a wolf in “The Three Little Pigs”). How would this change the meaning of the original story?
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| Type 6 (High order, open)Evaluation - judgement of validity, usage of a set of criteria to make conclusions, discrimination assess, rank, test, explain, discriminate, critique, support | * Was the main character in the story good or bad? Why?
* Compare any two books you’ve read and tell which one you would recommend to your friend/s and why you would.
* Compare two characters in the story. Tell which one you think is the bravest and why?
* Which character in the story would you most like to spend the day with? Why?
* Was this story worth the time it took to read? Why?
* If you had the opportunity to go where this story takes place, would you want to go? Why/why not?
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