KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2a Give/explain the meaning of words in context

1. What does this word tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?
2. Look at a sentence/passage and circle a word/phrase that means the same as...
3. Read this sentence...and circle a word that means the same as...
4. Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the main character is...?
5. Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the setting is...?
6. Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the atmosphere is...?
7. The author uses words like...to describe...What impression does this give us of the character/setting/atmosphere?
8. The author describes the main character/setting/atmosphere as... Think of another word that could be used instead.
9. The author describes the main character/setting/atmosphere as... What impression does this give us about...?
10. Why did the author use the word ... to describe ...?
11. How does the author make the reader feel....in this part of the text?
12. How has the choice of words created the feeling of...?
13. What do phrases such as ... tell you about...?
14. Why did the author choose the words ... and ... to describe...?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2b Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

1. Where is the story set?
2. Put the events of the story in the order in which they have happened?
3. What is the name of the main character?
4. How does the main character look/behave/speak?
5. When is the story set?
6. What are the names of the characters in the book?
7. Where would you find a section about...?
8. Can ... have more than one meaning?
9. What does the word... mean?
10. Which word told you that...?
11. What does the phrase...mean?
12. Which phrase told you that...?
13. Find evidence to justify your opinion.
14. What did the...do when...?
15. Where did...go?
16. What does this section tell you about...?
17. Find a word or phrase which tells us how the character is feeling.
18. Where would you look for information about...?
19. What happened at...?
20. Describe...
21. Using the information that you have, could you plan a day at the museum/zoo/gallery?
22. Which paragraph tells us...?
23. Which section tells us...?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2c Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph
1. What is the main argument in this paragraph?
2. What is the main message in this paragraph? Can you describe what has happened in this chapter?
3. Describe how to ride a bike/cross the road/complete the experiment.
4. Using less than 20 words, describe/write a blurb for this book.
5. Highlight only ten words from this page. Close the book. Using the ten words you picked out, turn these into a paragraph about this book.
6. Organise the sentences into the order that you have read them.
7. Make a table/graph/chart/drawing that demonstrates the information in this book.
8. Which is the most important message in this book?
9. Can you describe what happened in 3 sentences?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2d Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

1. What does…think?
2. How did … react?
3. What makes you think that? Give evidence for your opinions.
4. Which words/phrases give you that impression?
5. Why do you think the author chose to…? Give reasons for your answer.
6. Explain why the author chose to…?
7. How was… different after…?
8. How did…?
9. Why did…?
10. Explain why the author chose this word to describe…
11. What ideas are we given about…?
12. What impression do we get about…?
13. What do you think will happen to the main character now? Can you give reasons for your opinion?
14. What makes you think this?
15. Why is…important?
16. What words tell us…?
17. What does the word…imply about…?
18. Which character would you most like to meet? Explain why.
19. Why did the character behave like this?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2e Predict what might happen from details stated and implied
1. Using the front cover, can you make a list of details about what you see?
2. Find another book/story with the same topic/themes. Is the content similar? What should this book contain? Check the contents/recap on the story to see if this happens.
3. Who is on the front cover? What is in the background? How might these details give us clues about the content of the book?
4. Based on what you know about the character/event what do you think the story will develop next?
5. Can you make a list of details to support your idea, using evidence from the text to say whether they are stated or implied?
6. Think about the author's other stories. Are there any familiar themes/characters/settings to the story we are reading? How did the story end? How might this story end?
7. Do you think the character will change his/her behaviour in the future? Give evidence for your ideas.
8. Why did the author choose this setting? How does this affect what happens in the story?
9. How is the character like someone that you know? How would she he/react to this situation? How does that affect how you think this character might respond?
10. The character is in a tricky situation. What will the character do next? What would you do? Why?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2f Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole

1. Explain why the character has done this.
2. Look at the section entitled... Why has this been included in this text?
3. Look at the front cover of this book. What sections would you expect to find in this book?
4. Explain how the character's behaviour/appearance has changed over the book. Why/how has this happened?
5. Does the author like the main character? How do you know?
6. What is the purpose of...?
7. How does the layout help...?
8. Why is...in...?
9. Why are..used?
10. What clues do we have that the main character is...?
11. Compare one character to the other. How are they different or similar?
12. Why is it easier to read...?
13. When might someone choose to use this book?
14. In what ways is...like...?
15. Why was this moment important for the rest of the story?
16. What is the author trying to say by writing this story?
17. Why did the author write this book?
18. How has the author organised the text? Why?
19. How does the organisation of this text help us to better understand the information?
20. In what ways do diagrams, photographs or illustrations help us to enjoy/ understand the text?
21. Who has the author written this text for?
22. Do the events happen in time (chronological) order? Why is this?
23. Why did the author choose to...?
24. Why does the author use...?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2g Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases

1. What does the word ...tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?
2. Find examples from the text that describe ....as being...
3. What does the word...tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?
4. Look for a phrase that implies that the character is...
5. Look for a phrase that implies that the setting is...
6. Look for a phrase that implies that the atmosphere is...
7. The author uses the word ...to describe... What impression does this give us?
8. How does the author show that the character/setting/atmosphere is...?
9. The author uses the word...to describe... Think of a synonym/antonym for this word.
10. Look for an example of a simile in the text. How does this add meaning?
11. Look for an example of a metaphor in the text. How does this add meaning?
12. Look for an example of personification in the text. How does this add meaning?
13. How have the headings/chapter names been chosen for this book?
14. Explain why the word...is used to describe...
15. Why does the writer compare... to...?
16. What does the word/phrase... tell you about ...?
17. How does the word/phrase...help us to describe...?
18. How has the choice of words created a feeling of...?
19. What does a phrase like ... tell us about ...?
20. Why did the author choose the verbs/adjectives... to describe...?

KS2 Reading Skills Questions

2h Make comparisons within the text
1. Describe how the character reacts to this problem. How is this different/similar to his/her previous reactions?
2. Compare how two characters are reacting to this problem. Who deals best with the situation?
3. How has the character changed during the text?
4. Which is the most important section in this book? Justify your choice.
5. How did people in the past understand this topic, compared to how we understand it today? Why have these views changed?
6. Compare one setting to another in the book. Why are the two settings significant to the story?
7. Why have the sections of the book been organised in this way? Reorganise the sections differently. Which do you prefer?
8. What can you tell about the viewpoint/opinion of the author in this situation/on this topic?