

Year 1 comprehension questions focus

Area of focus	Question examples	Tips
Retrieval of key information	Who went to the shops? Why should they not have gone to the park? Where was Nan going?	Focus on what the text has previously said not what we know eg we wouldn't go to a shipwreck because it is dangerous or there could be sharks would be incorrect if previously in the text someone had said Don't swim there because it is too far.
Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts.	What is another word for _____? What work in the text tells you that she was scared? Where does it say he was young? In the beginning, middle or end.	Use a dictionary or discuss any unknown words together Ask children to use it in a sentence to check understanding Encourage children to pronounce any unknown words correctly as they can use it in their writing
Make inferences from the text.	How is _____ feeling? What is the setting?	Focus on using the text rather than pictures We want children to build an image in their brain 0- read a story on them with their eyes closed so they can imagine their story
Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts.	What order in the text did these events happen? What happened in the beginning/middle/end?	This is a tricky test question as it requires them to read a number of statements and then order them Begin orally then build up to pictures and sentences
Identify / explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information.	Tell me a fact you just read. How many queen bees are in a hive?	Focus on recalling key facts with a sub-title so children can go back and look for themselves Encourage reading non-fiction books to build a love of genres
Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts.	What does _____ mean? What is another word for _____?	Non-fiction text focus

