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*Sincerely,  
Karen Haag*

## Question Sets for Reading

Reflection questions work best in sets of 3. I think carefully about the order of the questions to move students deeper into they're thinking. If I provide easier reflection questions first, I find students warm up to the exercise and I get better results.

In essence, I ask:

1. A literal question - assessing the student's understanding of a vocabulary word, a process, or to find out what they remember about the lesson or what they think is the main idea. This question matches the goal or the I-Can statement of the day.
2. A metacognitive question - asking students to explain the steps of their process, what proof they have that they're getting better at the skill, a question about what they don't understand
3. An application question - asking students how they will apply this information, how the information is important to them, or how they will remember what they learned. I also ask them to assess their learning.

I use the questions I share on this page for discussion with primary children and high school students. If learners cannot write, they type on the computer or dictate to me. As a matter of fact, I scribe for one person every day during reflection time so that I can push their thinking while we write together.

In addition, I model my thinking. They listen to others read their reflections. We critique reflections. We revise reflections to make them better by modeling first in a public place - overhead, SmartBoard or Doc Cam - and then revise our own. By putting these steps in place, *over time* students get better and better at explaining their thinking.

These questions are samples that worked for me. Feel free to use them and write your own 😊

### Question Sets

Warm Up, Easy Question	Metacognitive Question	Application Question
What reading strategy did you try today?	Explain how you used the reading strategy?	How will you apply that strategy to other reading tasks?
While you were reading, what fix-up strategy did you use?	Explain how you used the fix-up strategy.	Which fix-up strategies do you use most of the time?
Tell me one idea you inferred.	What details made you come to that conclusion?	How does learning about inferring help you in other areas of your life?
Summarize what you read today.	Was it easy or difficult to write a summary?	What help do you need to write summaries better?
Retell what you read today.	Look at your retelling and the cards on the wall. Which parts of the retelling did you include?	What do you need to learn to be a better "reteller"?
What is the most important idea you learned from reading?	Tell me why.	How will you remember what you learned?
List 1-3 words you learned today and what they mean.	How do you figure out unfamiliar words?	What question do you have about figuring out words you don't know?

**Question Sets**

<b>Warm Up, Easy Question</b>	<b>Metacognitive Question</b>	<b>Application Question</b>
Summarize your written response to your reading.	How does writing about what you read affect the discussion in reading group?	What would you suggest would make reading discussions go more smoothly?
Where did you read when you did your reading homework?	What kind of environment do you need to enjoy reading?	If you could, where would you read in the classroom so that you get in the “reading zone”?
List the books that you are reading that I don’t know about.	Of these, which are the most useful and/or interesting?	Why?
In your reading group, what kinds of contributions have you made?	Have they helped others?	What makes you think so (either yes or no)?
What double-entry journal did you use to record your thoughts today?	How does writing double entry journals help you understand what you’re reading?	For what kind of reading tasks do you think you would choose to write a double entry journal?
What did you read for homework last night?	How do you know you’re a better reader than when you came to this class?	How do you think becoming a better reader will help you?
Make a prediction about what will happen in the next chapter of your book.	Tell me what details in the text led you to make your prediction.	Explain whether or not you feel confident making predictions.
What is the easiest part of reading?	What is the hardest part of reading?	How do you know that you’re becoming a better reader
How long did you read today?	How long did it take you to get in the “reading zone”?	What helps you get in the reading “zone”?