

Figure 4.3: Before-Reading Question Stems

Question	Comprehension Strategy Addressed
Fiction	
<i>At the beginning of a new book</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What might this story be about based on cover pages, pictures, the title, and so on? • What might be the main problem in this story? • What might be the solution? • Do you think this will be a positive or negative story (one that makes you feel good or one that is suspenseful)? What clues told you so? 	Predicting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you know about . . . ? • Have you ever been . . . ? • Does this book remind you of anything you know or have done? • What other books have we read from this author, and what were they like? 	Connecting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What questions do you have for the author before you read this? • What are you wondering about as you look through the book? • What questions might you ask a peer to determine whether he or she read this chapter or book? 	Questioning
<i>If continuing a book</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has happened so far in the story? • Can you think of an analogy or metaphor that summarizes the story up to this point? 	Summarizing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think will happen next? Why? • What might happen if there was a sequel to this book? 	Predicting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you have any questions about what has happened so far? • Do you have any new questions for the author? 	Questioning

Question	Comprehension Strategy Addressed
Nonfiction	
<i>At the beginning of a new book</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think this text will be about based on the title, headings, pictures, and captions? Why do you think that? • What are three things you might learn from this text? 	Predicting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you already know about . . . ? • Have you ever been . . . ? • Does this book remind you of anything you know or have done? • What other books have we read from this author, and what were they like? 	Connecting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you hope to learn about . . . ? • Why do you think the author wrote this book? 	Questioning
<i>If continuing a book</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have you learned so far? • Can you think of an analogy or metaphor that summarizes the text up to this point? 	Summarizing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think you will learn next? Why? • Have your predictions been accurate so far? Explain. 	Predicting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you have any questions about what you have learned so far? • What do you think the author wanted you to know by this point? • Are there any questions you still have? 	Questioning