

Reading Question Stem Cards

Main Idea and Supporting Details

- Paragraphs ___ and ___ are mostly about _____ .
- This selection is mainly about _____ .
- Paragraph ___ is mostly about _____ .
- Paragraphs ___ through ___ are mostly about _____ .
- The primary purpose of paragraph ___ is to _____ .
- Which statement best supports the idea that _____ ?
- In paragraph ___, [character] says _____ because _____ .
- The title of the story is appropriate because _____ .

Summaries

- Which of these is the best summary of paragraph(s) _____?
- Which of the following is the best summary of the selection?

Characterization

- Which sentence from the story best conveys [character's quality]?
- What do the actions of _____ in paragraph ___ disclose?
- _____'s character is best revealed through _____ .
- What does [character's] response in paragraph ___ reveal?
- In paragraph ___, the author describes [character] as "[doing something]" to show _____ .
- Paragraph ___ reveals that _____ is _____ .
- In paragraph ___, [character] does _____ because _____ .
- Which line from the story best reveals _____ ?
- In trying to achieve his/her goal of _____, [character] could best be described as _____ .
- Paragraphs ___ through ___ show that the boy/girl [character] is _____ .
- In paragraphs ___ through ___, the [character's] thoughts indicate that he/she is _____ .
- [Character] changes from the beginning of the selection to the end by _____ .
- By the end of the selection, [character] became _____ because of _____ .

Point of View

- The story's point of view allows the reader to understand that _____ .
- The first-person narration is a good choice for this story because _____ .

continued

Reading Question Stem Cards (continued)

Conflict

- The problem in the story begins when _____ .
- The source of the author's conflict with [another character] was _____ .
- What is the basic conflict in paragraph ____?
- [Character's] internal conflict stems from _____ .
- [Character's] major conflict begins when he/she _____ .
- [Character's] problem begins when _____ .
- What is one conflict that [character] faces?
- Which of the following sentences from the article explains the author's primary conflict?

Theme

- Which of the following lines best summarizes a theme of the story?
- The theme in this story is best revealed through _____ .
- The theme of _____ is best demonstrated through _____ .
- Which sentence expresses a theme of the selection?

Plot Development

- The author builds suspense by _____ .
- At the climax of this story, the author _____ .
- What surprising plot development occurs in paragraph ____?
- The author develops _____ when he/she _____ the selection by _____ .
- The author develops the selection by _____ .
- Why did [character(s)] do _____ ?

Setting

- How does the setting affect [character's] ability to _____ ?
- How does the setting affect the narrator's feelings toward [character]?
- Because this article is written about past events, the author _____ .
- Which sentence from the selection best helps the reader understand the author's feelings about the setting?

continued

Reading Question Stem Cards (continued)

Literary Forms

- One way this story resembles a fable is that _____ .
- This selection is best described as a _____. (Answer choices would be literary forms: tall tale, fable, and so on.)
- In paragraph ____, the author uses a parable to teach _____ .
- In this story, _____ symbolizes _____ .
- Which line from the story serves as an example of sarcasm?
- The author uses repetition in paragraph ____ to _____ .
- The author introduces the fact that _____ in order to _____ .
- The author develops the selection primarily through _____ .
- The author builds suspense by _____ .
- The author writes _____ to show _____ .
- The author uses questions in paragraph ____ to _____ .
- In paragraph ____, the author uses a description to _____ .
- The author includes a question at the end of paragraph ____ to show that _____ .
- The author uses the phrase _____ to indicate that _____ .
- Which quotation from the selection best summarizes the author's view that _____ ?

continued

Reading Question Stem Cards (continued)

Figurative Language and Symbols

- Which of the following lines uses metaphor to create a _____ effect?
- The _____ in paragraph ___ is a metaphor for _____.
- When the author says _____, he/she suggests that _____.
- In paragraph ___, the author uses the simile “_____” to _____.
- In paragraph ___, the author uses figurative language to describe _____.
- In paragraph ___, the author uses sensory images to describe _____.
- The _____ in paragraph ___ symbolizes _____.
- What does _____ symbolize?
- Why does [character] respond with figurative language in paragraph _____?
- In paragraph _____, why does (or doesn't) the author show _____ finishing his/her sentence?
- Why does the author use exclamation points in paragraphs ___ through ___?
- In paragraph ___, why does (or doesn't) the author show _____?
- Why does the author respond with figurative language in paragraph ___?

Inferential Thinking

- Paragraph ___ allows the reader to infer that _____.
- Paragraph ___ supports the inference that _____.
- What conclusion can be drawn from paragraph ___?
- Which quotation from paragraph ___ best supports the generalization that _____?
- In paragraph ___, [character] most likely feels insulted because _____.
- What kind of generalizations can be made about _____?
- What may have been the author's reason for writing this selection?
- By the end of the selection, [character] becomes a stronger person because of _____.
- What is the significance of _____?
- From the tone in the first paragraph, the reader can tell that _____.
- The reader can conclude that a primary purpose of the title of selection is to _____.
- What tone does the author establish in paragraph ___?
- The tone of paragraph ___ is _____.
- The reader can conclude _____.

continued

Reading Question Stem Cards (continued)

Text Structures, Characteristics of the Text, and Historical Context

- Because the author describes the events of his/her life in the order in which they occurred, it is easier for the reader to _____ .
- Which of the following sentences from the selection explains the author's primary conflict?
- The audience that would probably relate most to the selection's central message would be _____ .
- The author changes the time frame in paragraphs ___ and ___ in order to _____ .
- The historical context that best contributes to the reader's understanding of paragraph ___ is _____ .
- In paragraph ___, the author uses the word _____ to emphasize _____ .
- Why does the author italicize words in the text, such as _____ and _____ ?
- The author best develops this story by _____ .
- The reader can conclude that the author _____ .
- It is reasonable to predict that _____ .
- The reader can tell from the article _____ .
- How does the [historical context] affect [character's] ability to _____ ?