

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry

Benchmark: Literary Elements

ELA.K.R.1.1: Describe the main character(s), setting and important events in a story.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- Who is the main character?
- Who are the main characters?
- Describe the main character (appearance, actions, feelings and/or thoughts).
- What is an event/major event?
- What is the setting of the story?
- How does the setting change in the story or text?
- The story takes place in (explicitly stated).
- The main character is (explicitly stated).
- Describe _____ in the text (explicitly stated).
- What happens in the story or text?
- What is the topic of this passage? (explicitly stated)
- Who is discussed in the text?
- When did the event occur (explicitly stated)?
- What is the problem (conflict) in the story?
- When is the problem (conflict) in the story introduced?
- What is the solution to the problem in the story?
- Who, what, where, when, why, how...?
- What happened when/before/after/during?
- Retell...

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

Select two reasons why the author included _____ in the passage.

Select two details that tell the reader about _____.

- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the main character _____ behave at the beginning of the story?
Part B: What problem is causing him/her to act that way?
- How do other characters make things better or worse for the main character?
- How is _____ introduced in the text?
- How does _____ connect to _____? (implicitly stated)
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How did _____ solve the problem of _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How are _____ and _____ connected to each other?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What happened after _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How are the characters _____ and alike/different?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry
Benchmark: Literary Elements

ELA.K.R.1.1: Describe the main character(s), setting and important events in a story.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept): Continued

- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the character respond to _____? (implicitly stated)
Part B: Select the sentences that show this feeling.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the character feel in the paragraph below? (Excerpted text)
Part B: Select the words or phrases that show this feeling.
- How do the characters respond to the events described in the text?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the difference between _____ and _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How does the author develop the idea of _____ throughout the text?
- At what point in the story were you certain that _____ had changed his/her mind about _____?
- How is _____'s attitude about _____ different from _____'s attitude?
- Which behaviors best reveals _____'s character?
- Explain how/why _____.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How are the stories alike?
- How are one character's actions affected by the main character's actions? (implicitly stated)
- What might the main character do differently if he/she finds him/herself in a similar situation again?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What has the main character learned by the end of the story? (DOK 2)
Part B: What important events from the entire story cause him/her to learn this? (DOK 3)
- How would the story be different if it had taken place at a different location or at a different time?
- What evidence supports _____?
- Do you agree or disagree with _____? Explain why.
- What conclusions can you draw about _____?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry

Benchmark: Perspective and Point of View

ELA.K.R.1.3: Explain the roles of author and illustrator of a story.

DOK 1 (Recall): What is an author?

- What is an illustrator?
- Who illustrated/photographed these pictures?
- What is a narrator?
- Who wrote this story?
- What is the character's stated point of view?
- What is the author's stated point of view?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- Why did the author write this story/text?
- What do the illustrations/images tell us about the words in the text?
- Which character is telling the story? How do you know?
- How do you know when someone else (the narrator) is explaining or describing what is happening?
- Why did the illustrator draw this picture?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the picture of the _____ help us learn about _____?
Part B: What in the picture helps you learn about _____?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the author describe _____?
Part B: Which phrases in the text show about _____?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: Select the part of the story that is told from the point of view of someone other than the main character.
Part B: How did the story change when it was told from the different point of view?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: Who is speaking in the sentence _____?
Part B: Which sentence supports your answer to Part A?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the author's point of view toward _____?
Part B: How does the author express his point of view?
- What would the author say about _____?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Benchmark: Perspective and Point of View

ELA.K.R.1.3: Explain the roles of author and illustrator of a story.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- ***Two-Part Question:***
Part A: How does the author help you understand the characters?
Part B: What phrase from the text shows the reader this?
- ***Two-Part Question:***
Part A: How does the illustrator help you understand the characters?
Part B: Which pictures from the text that shows the reader this?
- ***Two-Part Question:***
Part A: How does the author help you understand the setting?
Part B: What phrase from the text shows this?
- ***Two-Part Question:***
Part A: How do the photographs help you understand the text?
Part B: Which illustrations from the text shows this?
- What information can you get from the illustrations/pictures that you did not get from the words?
- Why would a book need both an author and an illustrator?
- How are the narrators in both passages the same?
- What does the author mean when he writes _____?
- Why did the author choose _____?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry
Benchmark: Poetry
ELA.K.R.1.4: Identify rhyme in a poem.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is a rhyming word?
- What are the rhyming words in this poem?
- Where are the rhyming words found in this poem?
- What is the same between these words?
- What do you see that is similar?
- How do the words sound?
- Rhyming words end with the same _____.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- What is an example of a word that rhymes with _____?
- How are the words _____ and _____ alike?
- How are the words _____ and _____ different?
- If the word _____ is changed to _____, does it still rhyme? Explain.
- Does _____ rhyme with _____? Explain.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- Produce two words that rhyme with _____.
- Produce a poem that contains rhyming words.

Standards-based Question Stems
Kindergarten
Standard: ELA.K.R.2 Reading Informational Text
Benchmark: Structure

ELA.K.R.2.1: Use titles, headings and illustrations to predict and confirm the topic of texts.

DOK 1 (Recall): Based on the title, what is this text about?

- Based on the headings, what will we learn about _____?
- What do the illustrations show us about _____?
- What does the illustration show?
- Do the words on the page support the title, headings or illustrations? How?
- What is a diagram?
- What information is presented in this text (explicitly stated)?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- How does the illustrator show the setting of the event?
- Explain how the image of _____ helps you understand what the passage is mostly about.
- How do the words and illustrations help the reader better understand the text?
- What does the illustration in the passage tell the reader about the topic of _____?
- What words in the text show the information the illustration provides the reader?
- What did you learn from the diagram that you did not learn from reading the passage?
- In the article, how does the picture/chart of the _____ support the author's message of _____?
- Explain how the image of the _____ helps show the reader the meaning of the passage.
- How does the illustration help the reader understand where this story/event is taking place?
- What does the reader understand using the information from the text and the illustration?
- Explain how the graph illustrates the point the author is making.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How does the picture/chart of the _____ support the author's message about _____?
- **Two-Part Question:**
- Part A: How does the illustration/photograph match what the words say?
- Part B: Which words do the pictures match?
- What is a similarity/difference in the way the pictures are used in both stories/texts?
- **Two-Part Question:**
- Part A: How does the picture help the reader understand the entire text?
- Part B: What part of the picture helps the reader understand the story?
- Why did the illustrator put a picture of _____ in the text?
- What does the reader understand using the information from Passage 1 and the illustration?
- What information is included in the text, but not in the illustrations?
- What information is included in the illustrations, but not in the text?
- What key details do the illustrations provide that the words do not?

Standards-based Question Stems
Kindergarten
Standard ELA.K.R.2 Reading Informational Text
Benchmark: Central Idea
ELA.K.R.2.2: Identify the topic of and multiple details in a text.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is the topic? (explicitly stated)
- What is a key detail?
- Where does the story/event take place?
- When does the story/event take place?
- Who/What is this text about?
- What does the author want the reader to learn?
- Which of the following happens first in the text (explicitly stated)?
- What happens last?
- What is the text mostly about?
- What is the main topic? (explicitly stated)
- What details about the main topic _____ does the author give?
- Which sentence best (describes, states, reflects) the main idea of the text, article or story?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- Why was _____ described as _____?
- Why did the author write this text?
- What are some of the details that help you understand the text?
- In the graphic organizer, place the events in the order in which they occur in the story.
- Based on the information in the passage, explain _____.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the main idea?
Part B: Which details in the text help you understand the main idea?
- How does the author use _____ to teach _____?
- Place the key details from the text listed below in the correct order in the graphic organizer.
- How does the _____ affect what happens in the text?
- One of the lessons of the passage is _____. Select two details of the passage that support this idea.
- Which of the following best describes what happens in the text?
- In one or two sentences, explain what the main idea of the text.
- **Two Part Question:**
Part A: What the text is mostly about? (implicitly stated)
Part B: Select a sentence from the passage that best supports your answer in Part A.
- Explain why the author titles this selection _____.

Standards-based Question Stems
Kindergarten
Standard ELA.K.R.2 Reading Informational Text
Benchmark: Central Idea
ELA.K.R.2.2: Identify the topic of and multiple details in a text.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- What does the reader understand using the information from Passage 1 and the illustration?
- How does (excerpted text) compare to (excerpted text)?
- How does the author develop the lesson/main idea using key details?
- Two-Part Question:
Part A: What would be a better title for the text?
Part B: Why would this be a better title?
- What can you infer about the topic?
- How does the author develop the central idea/main topic using key details?
- What is the most important information about the main topic (found throughout the text) that the author wants you to know?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.2 Reading Informational Text

Benchmark: Argument

ELA.K.R.2.4: Explain the difference between opinions and facts about a topic.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is the text mostly about?
- What is an opinion?
- What is a fact?
- How do authors support their ideas?
- What is a fact from the text?
- What is the author's opinion?
- With this text, what is a fact and what is an opinion?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- Based on the text, which reasons support the points that the author is making?
- What reasons does the author give for his/her opinion?
- How do the reasons support the author's thinking about?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: Which phrase is a point made by the author of Passage 1?
Part B: Which phrase from the passage supports your answer in Part A?
- Select TWO details from the text that support the point made by the author.
- What is the best reason that the author uses to support the idea that?
- What points is the author making, including reasons and evidence?
- How does the author use reason to support the point of in the text?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- Why did the author use the examples that he/she did?
- What inference can you make about the points the author is making?
- Why did the author use the examples that he/she did to support his/her point?
- What other reasons could the author have given to support the idea that _____?
- How does the author make his/her points clear?

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Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.3 Reading Across Genres

Benchmark: Interpreting Figurative Language

ELA.K.R.3.1: Identify and explain descriptive words in text(s).

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What does the word _____ mean?
- What does the phrase _____ mean?
- What does the author mean when he says _____?
- What is the meaning of _____?
- Which word best describes _____ in the text?
- How does the author describe _____ in the text?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: Choose the correct meaning of the word as the author uses it in the passage.
Part B: Select the words from the passage that help the reader understand what means.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What does the author mean by the phrase _____?
Part B: How does the author show the meaning of this phrase in the passage?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What in the picture helps you understand what the word means?
Part B: Select the item(s) in the picture that supports your answer in Part A.
- What does the author suggest by the phrase _____?
- What is meant when is described as (excerpted text)?
- What does the author tell about the main character with this sentence (excerpted text)?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How does the word/phrase help you understand the text/passage as a whole?
- How does the (figurative language) help explain the main idea/theme of the text?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What does mean as it is used in the passage?
Part B: Select TWO items from the illustration/picture supports your answer in Part A.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the illustration help you understand words in the story you might not know?
Part B: What in the illustration helps the reader?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.3 Reading Across Genres

Benchmark: Paraphrasing and Summarizing

ELA.K.R.3.2: Retell a text orally to enhance comprehension:

- a. Use main character(s), setting and important events for a story
- b. Use topic and details for an informational text.

a. Use main character(s), setting and important events for a story (Students should be able to answer questions about the characters, setting and important events. Students should also be able to orally retell a story to include characters, setting and important events.)

DOK 1 (Recall):

- Who is the main character? Who are the main characters?
- Describe the main character (appearance, actions, feelings and/or thoughts).
- What is an event/major event?
- What is the setting of the story?
- How does the setting change in the story or text?
- The story takes place in (explicitly stated).
- The main character is (explicitly stated).
- Describe _____ in the text (explicitly stated).
- What happens in the story or text?
- What is the topic of this passage? (explicitly stated)
- Who is discussed in the text?
- When did the event occur (explicitly stated)?
- What is the problem (conflict) in the story?
- When is the problem (conflict) in the story introduced?
- What is the solution to the problem in the story?
- Who, what, where, when, why, how...?
- What happened when/before/after/during?
- Retell...

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- Select two reasons why the author included _____ in the passage.
- Select two details that tell the reader about _____.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the main character _____ behave at the beginning of the story?
Part B: What problem is causing him/her to act that way?
- How do other characters make things better or worse for the main character?
- How is _____ introduced in the text?
- How does _____ connect to _____? (implicitly stated)
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How did _____ solve the problem of _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How are _____ and _____ connected to each other?

Standards-based Question Stems

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DOK 2 (Skill/Concept): Continued

- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What happened after _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How are the characters _____ and alike/different?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the character respond to _____? (implicitly stated)
Part B: Select the sentences that show this feeling.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: How does the character feel in the paragraph below? (Excerpted text)
Part B: Select the words or phrases that show this feeling.
- How do the characters respond to the events described in the text?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the difference between _____ and _____?
Part B: Which word/phrase tells the reader this?
- How does the author develop the idea of _____ throughout the text?
- At what point in the story were you certain that _____ had changed his/her mind about _____?
- How is _____'s attitude about _____ different from _____'s attitude?
- Which behaviors best reveals _____'s character?
- Explain how/why _____.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How are the stories alike?
- How are one character's actions affected by the main character's actions? (implicitly stated)
- What might the main character do differently if he/she finds him/herself in a similar situation again?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What has the main character learned by the end of the story? (DOK 2)
Part B: What important events from the entire story cause him/her to learn this? (DOK 3)
- How would the story be different if it had taken place at a different location or at a different time?
- What evidence supports _____?
- Do you agree or disagree with _____? Explain why.
- What conclusions can you draw about _____?

Standards-based Question Stems

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b. Use topic and details for an informational text. (Students should be able to answer questions about the topic and details of an informational text. Students should also be able to orally retell an informational text to include the topic and key details.)

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is the topic? (explicitly stated)
- What is a key detail?
- Where does the story/event take place?
- When does the story/event take place?
- Who/What is this text about?
- What does the author want the reader to learn?
- Which of the following happens first in the text (explicitly stated)?
- What happens last?
- What is the text mostly about?
- What is the main topic? (explicitly stated)
- What details about the main topic _____ does the author give?
- Which sentence best (describes, states, reflects) the main idea of the text, article or story?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- Why was _____ described as _____?
- Why did the author write this text?
- What are some of the details that help you understand the text?
- In the graphic organizer, place the events in the order in which they occur in the story.
- Based on the information in the passage, explain _____.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the main idea?
Part B: Which details in the text help you understand the main idea?
- How does the author use _____ to teach _____?
- Place the key details from the text listed below in the correct order in the graphic organizer.
- How does the _____ affect what happens in the text?
- One of the lessons of the passage is _____. Select two details of the passage that support this idea.
- Which of the following best describes what happens in the text?
- In one or two sentences, explain what the main idea is.
- **Two Part Question:**
Part A: What the text is mostly about? (implicitly stated)
Part B: Select a sentence from the passage that best supports your answer in Part A.
- Explain why the author titles this selection _____.

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

b. Use topic and details for an informational text. (Students should be able to answer questions about the topic and details of an informational text. Students should also be able to orally retell an informational text to include the topic and key details.)

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- What does the reader understand using the information from Passage 1 and the illustration?
- How does (excerpted text) compare to (excerpted text)?
- How does the author develop the lesson/main idea using key details?
- Two-Part Question:
Part A: What would be a better title for the text?
Part B: Why would this be a better title?
- What can you infer about the topic?
- How does the author develop the central idea/main topic using key details?
- What is the most important information about the main topic (found throughout the text) that the author wants you to know?

Standards-based Question Stems

Kindergarten

Standard: ELA.K.R.3 Reading Across Genres Benchmark: Comparative Reading

ELA.K.R.3.1: Compare and contrast characters' experiences in stories.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What does compare mean?
- What does contrast mean?
- What is a similarity?
- What is a difference?
- What is an adventure?
- What is a character?
- What a topic?
- What is an experience?
- What happened to _____ in the story?
- What experience did (character) _____ have in the story?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- What does each main character do to resolve his/her problem?
- Two-Part Question:
Part A: Who is the main character in each story?
Part B: How would you describe each character?
- What are the problems the characters face in the story or in both stories?
- Two-Part Question:
Part A: What point is the author making in the text?
Part B: What in the text tells you the point the author is making?
- What is the topic of each text?
- How does the author support the idea _____?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking): How does the author portray the ideas differently or similarly?

- How are Passage 1 and Passage 2 alike?
- How are the settings of both stories similar/different?
- How are the characters of both stories similar/different?
- How are the events of both passages similar/different?
- Both passages are about characters experiencing a _____. How does the author use the events to illustrate how the characters feel?
- Two-Part Question:
Part A: What kinds of experiences does each character have?
Part B: How are their experiences alike and different?
- How is the _____ (person in the text) in Article 1 different from _____ (person in text) in Article 2?
- What information was in one text that was not in the other?