

Standards-based Question Stems

Third Grade

Standard: ELA.3.R1 Reading Prose and Poetry

Benchmark: Literary Elements

ELA.3.R.1.1: Explain how one or more characters develop throughout the plot in a literary text.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- Who are the characters in the story?
- What is character motivation?
- What can you tell me about _____ character?
- How does the character react in the story?
- Which is of the following does the character do first?
- The main character is _____ (explicitly stated) in the passage.
- Select the sentences in the story that show that the main character is _____ (explicitly stated).
- Describe _____ (character) in the text (explicitly stated).
- The conversation between _____ (characters) in paragraphs ____ through ____ shows that _____ (character) is _____.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- In what ways do the characters think alike/different? Use text evidence to support your answer.
- Which details does the author provide to show us how the characters interact with each other?
- What attitude did the characters display?
- How does the dialogue help you to understand the characters and their actions?

• **Two-Part Question**

Part A: How does the character feel in the paragraph below?

Part B: Select the sentences that show this feeling.

• **Two-Part Question**

Part A: Based on the information in the passage, how does the reader know that the main character is _____?

Part B: Select details from the text to support your answer.

- Which sentence from the text shows _____ about the character?
- How does _____ (character) respond to the situation?
- Why does ____ (character) do _____ (action)? Use text evidence to support your answer.
- What can the reader conclude about _____ (character)?
- Which sentence on page ____ show best shows that _____ (character) realizes that _____?

• **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: What has the main character learned by the end of the story?

Part B: What important events from the entire story caused him/her to learn this?

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Benchmark: Literary Elements

ELA.3.R.1.1: Explain how one or more characters develop throughout the plot in a literary text.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How does the character change throughout the story?
- How did the character's actions affect the outcome of the story?
- How are one character's actions affected by the main character's actions.
- Summarize the main characters actions and the effects on the outcome of the story?
- What might the main character do differently if he/she finds him/herself in a similar situation again.
- At what point in the story were you certain that _____ had changed his/her mind about _____?

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ELA.3.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry

Benchmark: Theme

ELA.3.R.1.2: Explain a theme and how it develops, using details, in a literary text.

DOK 1 (Recall)

- What does theme mean?
- What is a central message?
- What is the theme of the text?
- What is one theme presented in this text?
- What is the main message?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- Write a sentence to explain theme of the text using text evidence to support your answer.
- How does _____ contribute to the theme of the text?
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: The theme of the text is _____.
Part B: Select two details in the passage that support this idea.
- **Two-Part Question:**
Part A: What is the central message of this text?
Part B: Use text evidence to support your answer.
- Paragraph ____ is important to the theme of the story because it shows _____.
- How is the theme of _____ similar to the theme of _____? Explain using text evidence.

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- How does the author convey the lesson or theme of the text?
- What is the most important information the author wants you to know?
- Can you explain how _____ affected _____?
- Summarize in a paragraph the theme or central message of the story?
- Which of these sentences does not support the theme of the text? Teacher gives 3-4 answer choices.)
- Can there be another theme to the text? If so, explain your thought using text evidence.

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Standard: ELA.3.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry
Benchmark: Perspective and Point of View
ELA.3.R.1.3 Explain the character's perspectives in a literary text.

DOK 1 (Recall)

- Who is telling the story?
- What is the role of the narrator?
- What are the characters in the story saying?
- What is dialogue?
- What is point of view?
- What is the narrator's stated point of view?
- Are the narrator and the author the same person?
- What is a perspective?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- **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 _____ (excerpted text)?
Part B: Select the sentence that supports your answer to Part A.
- What is the character's point of view? Use text evidence to support your answer.
- Explain who is telling the story from the context clues in the story.
- Which of the following correctly describes the point of view in the article? (Teacher gives 3-4 options.)
- Which sentence in the text reveals the author's primary point of view?
- How does _____'s perspective affect _____?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- Summarize who is telling the story. What evidence supports this?
- Why did the narrator describe the events the way he/she did?
- Can you explain how the narrator affected the story?
- How would the story be different if another character was telling the story?
- What is the narrator's perspective? Is the narrator in the story, or is the story being told by an outside observer? Use text evidence to support your answer.
- How does the narrator's point of view influence the actions in the story?
- How does the perspective of ____ (character) influence _____ (person or event)?

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Standard: ELA.3.R.1 Reading Prose and Poetry

Benchmark: Poetry

ELA.3.R.1.4 Identify types of poems: free verse, rhymed verse, haiku, and limerick.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is a poem?
- What is free verse?
- What is rhymed verse?
- Which words rhyme in each stanza?
- What is a haiku?
- What is limerick?
- What is a poet?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- What is the main message of the poem?
- What is the theme presented in the poem?
- How does the speaker feel throughout the poem?
- The poem is mostly about a speaker who _____.
- How are free verse and rhymed verse different? the same?
- How are haiku and limerick different?
- Based on the poem, what can the reader conclude the main character?
- The poem expresses the importance of _____?
- Lines _____ and _____ are important to the poem because _____.
- Why does a poet write a poem?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- Produce a free verse, rhymed verse, haiku, or limerick to show understanding of each type of poem. Explain the meaning of each poem.
- Summarize the poem.
- Analyze the _____ (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.) stanza.

Two-Part Question:

Part A: How does stanza 1 differ from stanza 2.

Part B: Select words for phrases from the text that shows the difference.

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Standard: ELA.3.R.2 Reading Informational Text
Benchmark: Structure

ELA.3.R.2.1: Explain how text features contribute to meaning and identify the text structures of chronology, comparison, and cause/effect in texts.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What are captions?
- What in an index?
- What is a table?
- What is a map?
- What is an illustration?
- What is a photograph?
- What is a heading? Subheading?
- What is a diagram?
- What is a sidebar?
- What does the illustration show?
- What does the map try to show or explain?
- Which information (explicitly stated) can be found under the heading _____?
- Why does the author use bullets?
- The author includes heading in bold print to _____.
- Which part of the selection can the reader find information about _____?
- What can the reader learn from the chart on p. ____?
- What information is presented in this text (explicitly stated)?
- Select the words in the text that show what information the illustration provides the reader.
- In what ways does the author present information about?
- What did you learn from the diagram that you did not learn from the reading?
- What does the reader understand using the information from the text and the illustrations?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept):

- How do the headings in this text help you get information about the topic _____?
- What information can be found in the headings in this text to help you get information about the topic _____?
- Explain why it is more efficient to use headings instead of an index to locate _____.
- What did the author use the subheading for paragraph ____ of the text?
- Why did the author use a glossary at the end of this nonfiction text?
- Why did the author use an index at the end of the nonfiction text?
- Explain what a table is in your own words.

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Third Grade

Standard: ELA.3.R.2 Reading Informational Text
Benchmark: Structure

ELA.3.R.2.1: Explain how text features contribute to meaning and identify the text structures of chronology, comparison, and cause/effect in texts.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept) Continued

- How are captions and labels alike?
- How are pictures and illustrations alike and different?
- Which text feature best supports the main idea of this paragraph?
- Based on text features, what do you think the book will be about?
- In the article, how does the picture/chart of the ____ support the author's message?
- Which detail from the text supports the idea that _____?
- What does the reader understand using the information from the text and the illustrations?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How can you use the title or heading of this book to predict the main idea?
- What caption would you write for this photograph?
- Write an appropriate heading for this paragraph.
- How do the text features on this page relate to each other?
- What inferences can you make about the text based on the illustrations?
- Compare and contrast two text features on this page.
- Create an additional text feature for this book.
- Choose one of the text features and write your own paragraph to support the text.
- How would the book have been different if the author had not included text features?

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Standard: ELA.3.R.2 Informational Text

Benchmark: Central Idea

ELA.3.R.2.2: Identify the central idea and explain how relevant details support that idea in a text.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is a relevant detail?
- What does the phrase, central idea, mean?
- The author wrote this text mainly to _____.
- What is the main topic of the text?
- What happens in this text?
- What are the relevant details of the text?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- Write a sentence to explain the central idea of the text using relevant details.
- How does _____ contribute to the topic of this text?
- How does the author use _____ to describe?
- **Two Part Question**
Part A: What is the central idea of the text?
Part B: Select a sentence from the passage that best supports your answer.
- Which of these is a good summary sentence for the central idea of the text? (Teacher gives 3-4 options)
- Which of these is not a relevant detail that supports the central idea of the text?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- How does the author develop the main topic using relevant details?
- How does the author convey the central idea of the text?
- What is the most important information about the central idea that the author wants you to know?
- Which of these details does not support the central idea of the text?
- Is _____ a good title for the text? Why or why not?
- Summarize, in your own words, the central idea of the text including relevant details.

Standard: ELA.3.R.2 Informational Text

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Benchmark: Purpose and Perspective

ELA.3.R.2.3: Explain the development of an author's purpose in an informational text.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is the author's purpose in this text?
- The author wrote this article mainly to _____.
- What is the purpose of an informational text?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- What details in the text helped you to determine the points being made by the author?
- Which of the following statement(s) (teacher options) correctly describes the author's purpose in the article?
- Which sentence from page ___ in the text reveals the author's primary purpose?
- The author includes paragraph ___ on page ___ most likely to _____.
- The author includes sections _____ to _____.
- The author's purpose of paragraphs _____ and _____ is to _____.
- The author's purpose in this text is most likely to tell the reader that _____.
- The author's purpose in this text is most likely to explain _____.
- What detail did the author provide to convey the difference between ___ and ___?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- How does the author's purpose impact what the reader learns about in the text?
- What does the author hope to accomplish by writing this text?
- The author's purpose is best supported by _____. Use text evidence to support your answer.

Standard: ELA.3.R.2 Informational Text
Benchmark: Argument

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ELA.3.R.2.4: Identify an author's claim and explain how an author uses evidence to support the claim.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- How do authors support their ideas?
- What is an opinion?
- What is the author?
- What is a claim?
- Why do you think the author wrote that?
- Are there any reasons why you think the author likes...?
- What in the writing made you think that ____?
- What are the reasons the author wrote this piece?
- How and where did the author support his reasoning?
- What important points does the author make?
- What is the author's attitude toward?
- How does the author express his point of view?
- What does the author mean when he writes ____?
- Choose the statement that best expresses the author's point of view. (Teacher provides options.)

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- Based on information in the text, which reasons support the author's ideas?
- What reasons does the author give for his/her opinion?
- What reasons does the author use to support the idea that _____?
- What is the best reason the author provides to support his/her opinion or idea? Use at least TWO details from the text.
- What points is the author making, including reasons and evidence?
- How does the author use reasons and evidence to support the point of _____ in the text?
- What are key points the author wants us to know about this topic?
- What would the author say about _____?
- Why does the author pose this question: _____?
- Why did the author choose _____?

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?
- What other reasons could the author have given to support his/her/point?
- How does the author make his/her points clear?
- What is the strongest evidence the author uses in support of his claim? Why? Use text evidence to support your answer.

Standard: ELA.3.R.3 Reading Across Genres
Benchmark: Figurative Language

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ELA.3.R.3.1: Identify and explain metaphors, personification, and hyperbole in text(s).

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is a simile?
- What is an idiom?
- What is an alliteration?
- Identify a simile in the text.
- Identify an idiom in the text.
- Identify an alliteration in the text.
- Identify a simile, idiom, or alliteration in paragraph _____, or page _____ in the text.
- What is a metaphor?
- What is personification?
- What is hyperbole?
- Identify a metaphor in the text.
- Identify an example of personification in the text.
- Identify an example of personification in the text.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- How can you use the words and sentences around an unknown word to figure out what the simile, idiom or alliteration _____ means?
- How can you use the words and sentences around an unknown word to figure out what the metaphor, personification, or hyperbole _____ means?
- What would the literal meaning of _____ be? What is the intended meaning?
- **Two-Part Question:**
 - Part A:** What does the author mean by the phrase _____?
 - Part B:** How does the author illustrate this phrase in the passage?
- How do the words or phrases help you picture what is happening?
- What does the word or phrase, _____, describe in this sentence?
- What does the phrase _____ mean in the text? What type of figurative language is this?

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Standard: ELA.3.R.3 Reading Across Genres
Benchmark: Figurative Language

ELA.3.R.3.1: Identify and explain metaphors, personification, and hyperbole in text(s).

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking):

- How does the word/phrase help you understand the text/meaning as whole?
- Explain why the author chose to use the words _____ on page _____ or paragraph _____.
- Write a sentence related to the text using a simile, idiom or alliteration.
- Write a sentence related to the text using metaphor, personification, or hyperbole.
- Based on the _____ (simile, idiom or alliteration), what might you infer about ____?
- Based on the _____ (metaphor, personification, or hyperbole), what might you infer about ____?
- What does the author imply by saying _____?

Standard: ELA.3.R.3 Reading Across Genres
ELA.3.R.3.2.: Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.
a. Include plot and theme for a literary text.

DOK 1 (Recall)

- Who are the characters in the text?

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- What happened in the beginning of this text?
- What is this text about?
- What happens in this text?
- Retell this text with beginning, middle and end.
- What is the setting of this text?
- What is the plot?
- What is the theme?
- What is a problem?
- What is a solution?
- Using a graphic organizer, sequence the events of the text.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- **Two-Part Question:**
 - Part A:** What happens in this text?
 - Part B:** Which sentences help you determine this?
- Place key details in the correct order in a graphic organizer.
- Which sentence shows why _____ happened?
- Can you explain why _____ happened in the story?
- **Two-Part Question:**
 - Part A:** What is the theme?
 - Part B:** Which sentences from the text help you determine this?
- How does the sequence of events contribute to the solution?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- Write a summary of the text including the plot and the theme.
- How could the author rewrite the text to change from ____ to ____? (ex. injustice to justice)

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

ELA.3.R.3.2.: Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.

- b. Use the central idea and relevant details for an informational text.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What is the central idea?
- What is a relevant detail?
- Locate a detail on page _____ that supports _____.
- What is this text about?
- What happens in this text?
- Retell this text.
- Describe _____ in the text using relevant details.

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- Write a sentence to explain the central idea of the text.
- Which sentence shows why _____ happened?
- Can you explain why _____ happened in the story?
- **Two-part Question:**
Part A: What is the central idea of the passage?
Part B: Select a sentence from the passage that best supports your answer.
- Explain why the author titles this section _____.
- What point does the author want you to understand about _____?
- What does the author mean when he writes _____?
- How are passages _____ and _____ alike?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- How does the author develop the central idea using relevant details?
- Write a sentence to explain the central idea of the text. Add relevant details from the text.
- Which of these details is not in order? (Teacher provides 3-4 details.)
- Which of these details is not about the central idea of the text? (Teacher provides 3-4 details.)
- Summarize the central idea of the text using relevant details.
- Based on the information in this text, would you reach a conclusion similar to the one the author states in the text?
- How did you decide _____ was important in the text?
- How does the author develop _____ throughout the text?

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

Benchmark: Comparative Reading

ELA.3.R.3.3: Compare and contrast how two authors present information on the same theme.

DOK 1 (Recall):

- What does compare mean?
- What does contrast mean?
- How are _____ and _____ alike?
- How are _____ and _____ different?

DOK 2 (Skill/Concept)

- How do the ideas in _____ compare to the ideas in _____?
- Use a Venn Diagram to compare the two texts.
- How does the author of _____ present the information about _____ compared to the author of _____?

DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking)

- Compare and contrast the illustrations and text features in the two texts.
- How is the information in topic _____ related to topic _____?
- Write why the relationship found in these texts are the same.
- Justify why the details are different about the same topic. Use text evidence to support your answer.
- Which author's style is easier to understand and why do you feel this way? Use text evidence to support your answer.