

Parent support resources

Before

What is your book about? Why did you choose this book?
What do you already know about ____?
What do you think will happen based on the title and front cover?

During

What is the main character like?
What has happened so far?
Why do you think the character reacted in that way?
What caused that to happen?
Connect what they're reading with any similar experiences they might have had.

After

What were your favourite parts of the story and why?
Were your predictions right?
Did you like the main character? Was there a character you disliked? Why?
Would you change anything about the story?

These questions can be asked while reading together or to simply 'check in' when your child is reading independently.

Plot	Character	Setting	Genre	Structure	Language
<p>1. Can you summarise the events of the novel so far?</p> <p>2. Have you reached the climax of the novel yet? If yes—what happened? If no—make a prediction.</p> <p>3. Explain your favourite part in your own words.</p> <p>4. What perspective is the story told from?</p> <p>Challenge: Why do you think the writer has chosen this perspective? What are the benefits and limitations of this perspective?</p>	<p>1. Summarise the characteristics of your novel's protagonist.</p> <p>2. Compare this protagonist to the protagonist of the last novel you read. What are the similarities and differences?</p> <p>3. Why do you think the writer has created this particular protagonist? What do they bring to the novel?</p> <p>Challenge: How has the protagonist changed or developed throughout the novel so far? How might this engage the reader?</p>	<p>1. Where does the novel begin? What setting has the writer chosen to open with?</p> <p>2. What tone/atmosphere does this opening setting create?</p> <p>3. Now choose another setting from the novel. How does this setting affect how the characters think/act?</p> <p>Challenge: How does the setting or weather reflect the key themes or genre of the novel?</p>	<p>1. What genre does this novel belong to? How do you know this? Give examples from the text.</p> <p>2. Does the narrator have a certain tone or style of narrating? How has the writer used this to reflect the genre?</p> <p>3. How do the characters and setting fit into this genre?</p> <p>Challenge: Choose an event/page/chapter and discuss what you would change in order to change the genre?</p>	<p>1. What happens at the beginning, middle and end? How does each stage interest the reader?</p> <p>2. Can you spot any changes or developments? Think about setting, character and atmosphere. Why do these changes interest the reader?</p> <p>3. What narrative structure has the writer chosen? Is it chronological?</p> <p>Challenge: Does the beginning foreshadow the end? Can you identify any repetition or juxtaposition?</p>	<p>1. Look at the very first page. How has the writer used language to hook the reader?</p> <p>2. Think about the genre of the novel. How has the writer used language to create this genre? Choose an extract or quotation as evidence.</p> <p>3. Choose a descriptive paragraph. Zoom in on the writer's word choice and think about the connotations of juicy words.</p> <p>Challenge: Can you find any figurative language?</p>