Analyzing Texts Questions

Level One

1. Find 5 words that you don’t know. Use context clues to determine their meaning. Check your work with a dictionary.
2. What are the main events of the story? List them in chronological order.
3. What is the central conflict of the story? How is it resolved?
4. List 3-5 character traits for each main character. Explain why these traits fit the character.
5. What is the author’s purpose in writing this story?
6. What is the theme? Why do you think this is so?
7. What are three symbols in the text? What do they symbolize?
8. How can you relate the story to your life?

Level Two

1. Find 5 words that you don’t know. Use context clues to determine their meaning. Check your work with a dictionary.
2. What real-world examples can you relate to the text?
3. How does the protagonist change over the course of the story?
4. Describe the author’s writing style. Support your ideas with examples from the text.
5. How does the author create suspense?
7. How do symbols and motifs enhance the meaning of the text?
8. List three themes of the story. Which one is the most important? Why?

Level Three

1. Find 5 words that you don’t know. Use context clues to determine their meaning. Check your work with a dictionary.
2. What historical connections can be made through the text? How does this additional information enhance your understanding of the story?
3. How does the author’s writing style create tone and shape meaning?
4. How does pacing contribute to the construction of suspense? What techniques does the author use to control pacing?
5. How does characterization shape meaning?
6. List three themes of the story. Which one is most applicable to real life? Why do you think so?
7. Is the symbolism in the story an effective means of communicating the author’s ideas? Why or why not? Explain.
8. What does the text tell us about the social and cultural values of the time? Conversely, how does the historical period affect the author’s creation of the story?