

# **Factual Questions**

- **Require finding a fact in the information that you have read.**
- **The answer is right there in the passage/text.**

# **Characteristics of Good Answers:**

- **Is a complete thought.**
  - **Has a subject**
  - **Has a verb**
- **Is related to  
information in the  
passage/text.**
- **Answers the question.**

# **Big Picture Questions:**

**Require you to figure out the main idea or big message or theme of the passage/text.**

**May ask for the purpose of the writer.**

**May ask for summary information: setting or tone.**

# **Key Words in Big Picture Questions:**

# **Main Idea**

**The big idea in a  
paragraph or  
passage/text.**

**Example:**

**This passage/text is about  
how people lived during the  
Renaissance.**

# Purpose

**The author's  
reason for writing  
the passage/text.**

**Example:**

**The author wants to  
convince the reader to  
exercise every day.**

# Summary

**A short statement  
that tells about a  
long passage/text.**

## **Example:**

**The passage/text is a story  
about a man who breaks his  
arm and learns a lesson.**

# Message

**The author's communication in writing to the reader. What the author wants the reader to know or understand.**

**Example:**

**The author wants us to understand that people should not say mean things.**



# **Theme**

**Another word for  
“message” or what the  
author wants the reader to  
know.**

**Example:**

**The theme of this  
passage/text is that being  
safe is better than being  
sorry.**

# Setting

**The place in  
which the story is  
located.**

**Example:**

**This takes place in the  
African jungle.**

# Tone

**The feeling or emotion of the passage/text. The emotions the author is expressing through the use of certain words like adjectives and adverbs.**

## **Example:**

**This passage/text is angry. The author shows anger through the ways Peter acts by throwing things and yelling.**

# **Predicting Questions**

**Require you to  
make a guess or  
forecast about  
what will happen  
in the future.**

# **Key Words In Predicting Questions:**

**Next**

**End**

**Future**

**Ending**

**Happen**

**Effect**

**Will**

**Probably**

**Down the road...**

# Clarifying Questions

Require you to  
make sense of  
something.

# Clarifying Questions:

**Explain Something**

**Give a cause**

**Give a reason**

**Explain feelings**

**Compare something**

**Contrast something**