

4th-5th Grade Text Genres and Predictable Questions

These are examples are of the Different Genres four and five and types of questions that might appear on the 2011 test. These samples are directly from the 2008-2010 ELA, the predictive tests and the NAEP 2009, 2011 standardized federal exam and the NYS ELA Learning Standards. We will update you if and when there is any additional information.

| Narrative Structure | |
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| <p>Realistic Fiction Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characters – main and secondary • Main character’s problem/conflict • Rising tension • Sequence of events, e.g.: This happened first, which caused this to happen. Then this happened, which made this happen... • Change in the story • Solution/resolution • Setting • Conclusion • Author’s purpose – to entertain and to convey a message | <p>Predictable Questions</p> <p>Which character trait would you use to describe the character?</p> <p>Why did the author put this minor character in the story?</p> <p>The author says this about the character. What is she really saying?*</p> <p>This happened because.....*</p> <p>Why did this happen?*</p> <p>Can you name the detail that talks about how the character solves the problem?</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about why the author said *</p> <p>Which is a fact about the character’s problem?</p> <p>Which is an opinion about what this character is doing?</p> <p>What is the same about these two characters?</p> <p>The author said _____ why did he say it or what does he mean?*</p> <p>What is this mostly about?*</p> |
| <p>Historical Fiction Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above and: • The historical events that we learn about in this (and that are relevant to this story) • That characters may represent the historical time period or not • That the setting takes on a historical context • Things you learn about this time period • Author’s purpose – to entertain and inform | <p>Predictable Questions</p> <p>How would you describe the character?</p> <p>Why do you think the character did what he did?</p> <p>This happened because _____</p> <p>Why did the author tell us this about the setting?*</p> <p>What is the problem?</p> <p>Why is that a problem?</p> <p>Which part of this could be true?</p> <p>The author uses this word to mean _____?*</p> <p>Who’s talking in this story?*</p> <p>Whose point of view is this story written in?*</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about what happened at the end of the story.</p> <p>What is this mostly about?*</p> |
| <p>Folktales/Allegory Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above and: • That these are stories from the past and may represent different cities, countries, cultures • the lesson/moral of the tale • that characters may be animals • Author’s purpose – to teach a lesson/moral | <p>What’s so and so’s main problem in the passage?</p> <p>What’s the problem?</p> <p>Why did the problem occur?</p> <p>This problem happened because _____</p> <p>Which detail is not important to the plot in this passage?</p> <p>Which words from the passage have almost the same meaning?</p> <p>The author wrote _____ to _____</p> <p>With which statement would the author most likely agree?*</p> |

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| | <p>Which sentence best tells the theme of the passage?*</p> <p>What moral does this passage teach you?*</p> |
| <p>Narrative Non Fiction (Students had difficulty with the informational side to this)</p> <p>Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above (narrative, not folktales/allegory) • That this is a story but it is about a real person or subject or situation • Person’s struggles, motivations, and achievements • Information about the world/time period/subject that is taught through this true narrative • Author’ purpose – to inform | <p>Which trait would you use to describe the person in the text?</p> <p>Which is a fact about the person’s problem?</p> <p>Can you name the detail that talks about how the person solves problem?</p> <p>What motivated the person to do what he did?</p> <p>Why did the author put this minor person in the story?*</p> <p>The author says this about the person. What is she really saying?*</p> <p>What happened right after _____?</p> <p>This happened because.....</p> <p>Why did this happen?</p> <p>This person achieved _____*</p> <p>What is the same about these two people?</p> <p>The author said _____ why did he say it or what does he mean?*</p> <p>This story gives us information about _____</p> <p>What is this mostly about?*</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about why the author said at the end*</p> |
| <p>Drama (This is brand new probably for fifth grade)</p> <p>Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above (narrative, not folktales/allegory) and: • The author’s use of scenes • The narrator’s role • Particular lines and their significance • That plays have characters, setting, dialogue, narrators, stage direction, and props | <p>How do _____ dialogue and stage directions give an actor ideas about playing the character?</p> <p>The stage direction that suggests that _____ should speak the dialogue that follows is _____</p> <p>Which of these is an example of words spoken by narrator 2?</p> <p>After this scene the audience is supposed to predict that _____</p> <p>Lines that describe the scene and setting could be _____</p> <p>Which is an example of a prop that was used?</p> <p>Which choice best describes the play from which the scene was taken?</p> <p>The play can best be described as a _____</p> |
| <p>Biography (Students had difficulty with the informational side to this)</p> <p>Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above (Narrative Nonfiction) and: • Why the person became great • That the perspective is that of another person rather than the subject of the biography (as is the case with an autobiography) • Text boxes and picture support to locate information • Discussion in conclusion of accomplishments • Author’s purpose – to inform | <p>Which trait would you use to describe the person in the text?</p> <p>Why did the author put _____ in the story?*</p> <p>Can you name the detail that talks about how the person solves his problem?*</p> <p>Which is a fact about the person’s problem?</p> <p>What motivated the person to do what he did?</p> <p>What is the same about these two people?*</p> <p>Which is an opinion about what this person accomplished?</p> <p>This person achieved _____</p> <p>This happened because _____</p> <p>Why did this happen?</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about why the author</p> |

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| | <p>said _____ *</p> <p>This story gives us information about _____</p> <p>What happened right after _____?</p> <p>The author said _____. Why did he say it or what does he mean?*</p> <p>What is this mostly about?*</p> <p>Who is writing the biography?*</p> <p>Who is talking?*</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about _____ *</p> |
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| <p>Autobiography (Students had difficulty with the informational side to this)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above (Biography and Narrative Nonfiction) and: • About and written by the same person • Author's purpose – to inform | <p>Which trait would you use to describe the person in the text?</p> <p>Why did the author put this minor character in the story?</p> <p>The author says this about the person. What is she really saying?</p> <p>Which is an opinion about what this person is doing?</p> <p>What motivated the character to do what he did?</p> <p>Which is a fact about the character's problem?</p> <p>Can you name the detail that talks about how the character solves the problem?</p> <p>This happened because _____</p> <p>Why did this happen?*</p> <p>What happened right after _____</p> <p>What is the same about these two characters?</p> <p>The author said _____ Why did he say it or what does he mean?</p> <p>Who is writing the story?</p> <p>Who is talking?</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about how what _____ did will be used _____</p> <p>Draw a conclusion about why the author said *</p> <p>This character achieved _____</p> <p>This story gives us information about _____</p> <p>What is this mostly about?</p> |
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| <p>Expository Structure*</p> | |
| <p>Informational*</p> <p>Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to, All About, Question and Answer, Advertisements, List, Letter, Reports • That this type of text provides information pertaining to a main idea and details to support that main idea • Titles, questions and captions support the main idea • Text boxes and picture support to locate information • New information, misleading pictures, captions, text messages | <p>Who is this report written for? (New)</p> <p>Why did this report start? (New)</p> <p>Who is writing the letter and why? (New)</p> <p>What's the purpose of the letter? (New)</p> <p>What structure is this letter written in? (New)</p> <p>Who is interviewing you?*</p> <p>What happened after _____?</p> <p>What happened before _____?</p> <p>Which is a fact?</p> <p>This word means _____? (New)</p> <p>Which detail supports what we are saying about _____?</p> <p>Why did _____ change after _____? (New)</p> <p>What is the purpose of the illustration _____?</p> <p>Which detail tells us _____?</p> <p>What are two reasons _____ uses to support her argument? (New)</p> <p>What is _____ trying to _____?</p> |

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| | <p>The author wrote this story to _____? (New) What do the questions that are being asked tell us about the main purpose of the interview? (New) Why is the author giving us this information? (New) What is this mostly about? (New) What is another title for this story? (New) What is the main idea? (New) Which detail best supports the main idea?</p> |
| <p>Hybrid Mixed genre</p> | <p>Refer to the sample genre</p> |
| Both Structures | |
| <p>Poetry* Identify and discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a poem may tell a story • That a poem may provide information • That a poem may draw a picture • Figurative language • Stanzas • White Space • Repeating language • Theme(s) • Rhyme (when applicable) • Alliteration, and the use of literary devices such as idioms, personification, similes and metaphors | <p>Why does the character do something or not?*</p> <p>How does _____ feel at the beginning of the story? *</p> <p>How does _____ feel at the end of the story?*</p> <p>The narrator sees the main character in the poem as _____*</p> <p>What would _____ do next?</p> <p>Which stanza could not really happen?*</p> <p>Read these lines from the poem: _____.</p> <p>What do these lines most likely mean?*</p> <p>Which line best describes how _____ expresses _____?</p> <p>Read these lines from the poem. How would _____ most likely respond to these lines?*</p> <p>What point of view do _____ and _____ share?*</p> <p>There is alliteration in lines _____ and _____*</p> <p>Which of these words from the poem imitate a _____*</p> <p>The author is telling you _____ about the characters in the poem?*</p> <p>The character in the middle decided to _____?*</p> <p>Which element of poetry is not found in these stanzas?*</p> <p>What feeling is the speaker expressing in the poem?*</p> <p>The statement _____(figurative language) means _____*</p> <p>What is the rhyme scheme in the first stanza of this poem?*</p> <p>The tone of the poem is _____*</p> <p>According to the _____ the _____ symbolizes _____*</p> <p>How does the poet feel about _____?*</p> <p>Who is talking in the poem?*</p> |