Response to text questions

Listed below are a range of leading questions you can ask a student at various times when engaging with text, to promote a discussion.

**What is a text?**

Text can be spoken, visual and written. A text can include: a picture book, a song, a comic, a movie, a poster, a poem, an advertisement, an article, a play, a novel etc.

## Fiction

Prior to reading, viewing or listening

Why did you pick this text?

What makes you think this text is going to be interesting?

What do you think the text is going to be about?

Does this text remind you of anything else you've already read or seen?

What kind of characters do you think might be in the text?

What do you think might happen?

How do you think it will end?

Do you know other works this composer (author, director etc.) has created? Does this composer have a certain style you recognise?

During reading, viewing or listening

**Characters**

If you were that character, what would you have done differently in that situation?

If the main character in that story lived next door, would you be friends? Why or why not?

If you could ask a character something, what would it be?

Tell me about the images you are creating in your head.

**Setting**

Where is the book set?

What does the place look like in your head as you read? Would you want to visit there?

Tell me about the images you are creating in your head.

**Plot**

Catch me up on the story – what’s happened so far?

What do you think will happen next?

What do you hope will happen next?

**Vocabulary**

Show or tell me a word you would like to know more about.

After reading, viewing or listening

**Characters**

Who was in this book?

What do we know about them?

Who was your favourite character? Why?

Describe one of the characters to me. Tell me what they look like and what their personality is like (are they kind, bossy, cheeky, talkative)

Is there a character in the story that reminds you of someone you know? If so, who are they like, and how are they similar?

**Plot**

What happened at the beginning of the story?

What happened in the middle of the story?

What happened at the end of the story?

If you tell a friend about this story, what will you say?

Can you retell the story in sequence order (use your fingers and sequence words: first, second, then, next, etc.)

What was the big problem or event in this story?

How did they solve the problem?

Would you have ended the text differently?

Did it end the way you thought it would?

How was the problem in the plot resolved?

**Vocabulary**

Show/tell me a word you would like to know more about.

**Other – Purpose/Audience/Review**

Who do you think the composer (author, director etc) wrote this text for? Who is the audience?

How did the text make you feel?

Do you think the composer is from a particular culture, or social group? What evidence is there of that?

Can you relate to the text? How?

Is this a real or imaginative text? How do you know?

Do you recommend your friend reads this story?

What was your favourite part of the text? Why?

What was the most interesting thing you learned from the text?

If you could change one thing in the text, what would it be?

# Response to non-fiction

How has this text challenged your thinking about something?

What is something new you’ve learnt?

What was different about the way you accessed the information?

How is the information organised?

How is the organisation of the text different to a fiction layout?

How can you apply this new knowledge to your life

Can you share this information with someone?

Are you interested to learn more about this topic?

Show/tell me a word you would like to know more about.

What technical or unique words did you come across in this text, that you wouldn’t see anywhere else?