

8th Grade READING

Vocabulary Challenges—Determine word meaning—context, structure, base word

Vocabulary Questions—Stems based on ISAT samples

- Based on the etymology of the word xxxx, which of these is the best meaning of the word xxxx in this sentence?
- How does the prefix affect this word?
- What is the etymology of ___?
- What is the root word of ___?
- What is a synonym for ___?
What is an antonym for ___?
- Which word means the same as _____ in these sentences?

Fiction

Analyze questions—what kind of question is it; how do I answer it?

- Infer meaning of word from context
- Infer cause-effect, motive, predictions
- Point of view
- Summarize
- Infer the theme of a story, myth, or fable
- Analyze: genre; compare/contrast
- Infer: character traits, setting, plot, motive, prediction, main idea/theme, meaning of word from context
- Evaluate: author's techniques

Challenging Questions Based on ISAT Samples

- According to this sentence, which best describes the feelings of _____?
- How does the phrase xxxxx relate to the passage?
- How does the writer communicate the theme?
- In _____, the heading _____ refers to ----.
- In paragraph n, which literacy device does the author use?
- What is the first thing X does after ...? Why does X do that?
- What is the genre of _____?
- What is the mood of _____?
- Which is the best summary for paragraphs 1 and 2?
- Which literary device is used in the sentence below?
- Which statement summarizes the passage?
- Which word means the same as _____ in these sentences?

Extended Response Examples from ISAT samples

- What lesson can people learn from this story?
- What conclusions can someone draw about _____ based on this passage?

Non-Fiction

Analyze questions and answers—how do I choose the most important information; how do I choose the best answer?

- Infer meaning from context
- Identify fact/opinion
- Summarize—evaluate the information and decide what is important
- Identify the Main Idea and evaluate the importance of information to support it
- Analyze: compare/contrast; fact/opinion
- Infer meaning of word from context.

Challenging Questions Based on ISAT Samples

- How do the headings help the reader?
- How does the phrase xxxxx relate to the passage?
- How does the writer organize the passage?
- Paragraph N of this selection is mainly about
- What does ____ (give word) mean as used in this sentence?
- What is an opinion in the passage?
- What is the genre of _____?
- What is the main idea of paragraph n?
- What is the main idea of the passage?
- What is the writer's purpose?
- Which best describes what ____ are?
- Which information supports that main idea?
- Which is the best summary for part 1?
- Which statement summarizes the passage?

Interpret Poems

Challenging Questions Based on ISAT Samples

- If you did not know the meaning of ____ in stanza N, you should ____.
- In line n, when the speaker says ..., she most likely means ____.
- In this poem, which point of view does the poet use?
- The poet most likely took the idea for this poem from ____.
- Why does the speaker feel ____?