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# Developing Powerful Questions

- **Read the text**

- **Read the text and take notes**

Photocopy the text so you can write notes on the paper or use sticky notes to paste notes in appropriate places within the text.

- **Review the notes**

- **Write potential questions**



- **Test the questions**

**There should be genuine doubt about the answer(s) to the question.** If a question is open to different possible answers students will be more willing to share their thoughts.

**You should have genuine interest in the question.** Students will 'read' your interest (or lack of) in the question and story.

**The question should stimulate discussion.** The question should create an interest in revisiting the story for evidence.

**The question should be clear.** The participants should easily understand the question.

**The question should be specific.** The question should fit the story and not generic to any story.

- **Try the questions in a discussion**

1 - Participants must have read or heard (read aloud) the story.

2 - Discussion is focused on the selection everyone has read or heard.

3 - Opinions should be supported with evidence from the story.

4 - Leaders only ask questions – they do not answer them.