Main Idea

Design questions that require students to find the main idea or implied main idea of the passage. Use textual support.

- What is the main idea/essential message of this article/passage?
- What would be another good title for the article?
- Which sentence gives the best summary?
- Which statement best summarizes the events in this passage/story?
- What is the implied main idea of this passage?
- What is the author suggesting when he says_____________?

Relevant Supporting Details

- Which sentence best characterizes _______'s attitude toward _______?
- Which details from the text support the idea that ________?
- Which supporting details prove that ______ is the main idea of the text?

LA 6.1.7.3 LA 8.1.7.3
LA 7.1.7.3
Author's Purpose/Point of View

Design questions that require students to identify the author's purpose or point of view. Use textual support.

- How does the author persuade the character/reader to ____? (Use examples from the text to support your answer)
- What is the author's point of view about ____? How do you know?
- What is the author's purpose for saying ____?
- How does the author's perspective lead to ____?
- What does the author want the reader to think/understand?
- What is the author's bias toward ____?
- Which idea/statement from the text best indicates the author's bias toward_______?

LA.6.1.7.2
LA.7.1.7.2
LA.8.1.7.2
Character & Plot Development/Point of View/Setting/Conflict Resolution/Tone

Design questions that require students to identify/understand plot development, point of view, setting, conflict/resolution, theme and other literary devices in a story. Use textual support.

• What is the main conflict in the essay/story?
• How is the central conflict between ____ and ___ introduced in the text?
• How does the conflict in this story get resolved?
• What words best describe __________ (character)?
• How do ___'s viewpoints contribute to the development of the story/article?
• How does ______ change from the beginning to the end of the story?
• How does the setting contribute to the mood/tone in the text?
• State the central theme of this text in one sentence.

ILA 6.2.1.2  LA 7.2.1.2  LA 8.2.1.2
Vocabulary

Context Clues/Multiple Meanings/Word Structures

Require students to find the meaning of a word in context, including the use of prefixes, suffixes, root words, multiple meanings, synonyms, antonyms, and word relationships.

- In this text, what does the word _____ mean?
- What does the author mean/imply by saying, "______"?
- Which words help the author add to the idea/convey the meaning that _____?
- Read the quotation from the article. "______." In which sentence does the word _____ have the same meaning as in the quotation above?
- The word _____comes from the root word_______, meaning ______? Based on this meaning, what does the word (change prefix or suffix) ______ mean?
- Which pair of words is most similar/opposite in meaning?
- Use the word ______ in a different sentence in order to change the meaning of the word.
Cause and Effect

Design questions that require students to describe the cause or effect of an action, or a cause/effect relationship in a passage. Use textual support.

- What caused ____ to ____?
- What was the effect of ____?
- Why did ____ happen to ____?
- How did the conflict between ____ and ____ begin?
- What is the main reason/cause that ____ happens?
- Which factor forces/influences ____?
# Compare and Contrast

Design questions that require students to identify similarities and differences in a passage. Use textual support.

- How are ____ and ____ similar?
- How are ____ and ____ different?
- Why does the author compare ____ and ____ in this passage?
- How does the comparison between ____ and ____ help to illustrate ____?
- What advantage did ____ have over ____? (Use examples from text)
- In what way is ____ an appropriate comparison?
- What do ____ and ____ have in common?
- How is ____'s attitude toward ____ like his/her attitude toward ____?
- How does the concept in article ____ relate to the concept in the article ____? Use details from both texts to support your answer.

| LA.6.1.7.5 | LA.7.1.7.5 | LA.8.1.7.5 |
| LA.6.1.7.7 | LA.7.1.7.7 | LA.7.1.7.5 |
Patterns of Organization/Text Structure

Design questions that require students to understand the pattern of organization or text structure in a passage. Use textual support.

- What would an additional paragraph at the end of this passage most likely be about?
- What is the connection/relationship between _____ in paragraph ____ and _____ in paragraph ____? How do they relate?
- Why does the author connect the ideas of _____ and _____?
- How has the order in which the author arranged this passage help the reader to understand the idea that_______?
- Why did the author conclude this passage by saying ____? (cite text)
- What would happen if ____ had been changed to ____?
- How did the author organize the ____ paragraph?

LA.6.1.7.5 LA.6.6.2.2
LA.7.1.7.5 LA.7.6.2.2
LA.8.1.7.5 LA.8.6.2.2
Text Features

Design questions that require students to locate and analyze text features and understand how text features aid the reader's understanding. Use textual support.

- Based on the caption under the photograph, what can the reader conclude about ______?  
- Explain how the (chart/map/diagram/subheading/caption/illustration/graph) aid the reader’s understanding of ______?  
- What would be an appropriate sub-heading for the text below?  
- The purpose of the (article’s/brochure’s) headings and subheadings are to inform the readers about ______?
Organization, Interpretation, and Synthesis of Information

Design questions that require students to organize, locate, interpret, and synthesize information (within/across text). Primary and secondary sources may be used.

Use textual support.

• Based on the information in the ____ and ____ paragraphs, which statement best describes ______?
• The information in the article would be most useful for ____? Explain why?
• How do ____ and ____ suggest the central idea that ____?
• According to the information given (including the chart, graph, etc.) about (topic), which ____? (synthesis information using both text & graphic aid)
• People who read this article will learn to/that ____?
• How does the concept in article ____ relate to the concept in the article ____?

Use details from both articles to support your answer.

LA6.6.2.2 LA7.6.2.2 LA8.6.2.2
Validity & Reliability of Information

Design questions that require students to determine the validity and reliability of information in an informational passage.

- What are the reasons behind the author's opinion that ____?
- According to the information, what is the most accurate statement regarding ____?
- Which statement best supports the idea that ____?
- Which sentence from the text best emphasizes ____?

Note: Whenever possible, validity and reliability items should use direct quotations from the text in the answer choices.