

Asking Deeper Questions in Fiction Texts

ANSWER SHEET



Red light questions are those that we can answer using words and sentences in the text. After we answer a red light question, we STOP thinking. They are usually simple questions.

Green light questions can be answered using clues from the text and our own knowledge. They are also known as inferential questions. To answer a green light question, we must START thinking (green means go or start).

EXAMPLE:

"Angela was exhausted from her hiking trip, but when she arrived home, she realized she had no food in the fridge. She had no choice but to go out, even though she was tired."

Part of text	Red light question	Green light question
"Angela was exhausted from her hiking trip but when she arrived home, she realized she had no food in the fridge."	Why was Angela exhausted? Answer: Angela was exhausted because she had gone hiking.	Where did Angela go when she returned from her trip? Answer: I infer that she went to the grocery store to buy food because she had none.

Directions: Read the fictional story. Then write red light and green light questions, along with possible answers, using the parts of the text provided.

The Lopez family was ecstatic to finally return to Bolivia after 3 years of not visiting their home country. While they loved living in Virginia because there were many beautiful public parks and fun activities to do, they were all eager to visit family and friends back home. The eldest daughter, Lucia, kept daydreaming about eating *buñuelos*, or fried bread, with honey, in her grandma's house in La Paz, Bolivia.

They arrived to the airport only to discover their flight had been canceled. Mrs. Lopez started to cry. Miguel hugged his mother while Mr. Lopez talked to a lady to see when they could get on another airplane to Bolivia. Lucia, Gabriela, and Renata looked at each other sadly. The kind lady told them that the first available flight with enough spaces for the whole family would be two days later. Mr. Lopez made the arrangements, and the family turned around and reluctantly returned to their apartment in Virginia to wait patiently for two days to pass. Everyone was crushed that they had to wait two days to go because their cousin Martha was getting married the next day in Bolivia.

ANSWER SHEET (Sample answers)

Part of text	Red light question	Green light question
<p>“The eldest daughter, Lucia, kept daydreaming about eating <i>buñuelos</i>, or fried bread, with honey, in her grandma’s house in La Paz, Bolivia.”</p>	<p>What was Lucia <u>daydreaming about</u> ?</p> <p>Answer: Lucia was daydreaming about eating <i>buñuelos</i> with her grandma in La Paz.</p>	<p>Why was Lucia <u>daydreaming about her grandma</u>?</p> <p>Answer: Lucia was daydreaming about her grandma because she couldn’t wait to see her.</p>
<p>“They arrived to the airport only to discover their flight had been canceled. Mrs. Lopez started to cry. Miguel hugged his mother...”</p>	<p>What did Mrs. Lopez <u>do when she heard their flight was canceled</u>?</p> <p>Answer: Mrs. Lopez started to cry when she heard their flight was canceled.</p>	<p>Why did Miguel <u>hug his mother</u> ?</p> <p>Answer: Miguel hugged his mother to try to make her feel better because she was upset that they couldn’t go to Bolivia that day.</p>
<p>“The kind lady told them that the first available flight with enough spaces for the whole family would be two days later.”</p>	<p>When <u>would the family be able to fly to their home country</u>?</p> <p>Answer: They would be able to fly to their home country two days later.</p>	<p>How come <u>the Lopez family had to wait two whole days to fly to Bolivia</u>?</p> <p>Answer: Because the Lopez family had a lot of members, it was difficult to find a flight that had enough empty seats for all of them.</p>