

Sample Stance-Framed Questions

Being Out and Stepping Into an Envisionment

- What is the title and what does it suggest? Can I make any predictions based on the title?
- Who is the author and what do I already know about their writing? What can I expect from this author?
- What does the book jacket suggest about the story? What predictions can I make about the story based on the illustrations or the teaser on the cover?
- Who are the characters and what are they like? What can I expect from them in the future?
- What time period does this take place? What do I already know about this era that can inform my understanding?
- What is the setting and how is this going to impact the piece?
- What is the organization of this piece and what does this tell me about the text?
- What genre is this text and how does that impact what I can expect to encounter in the piece?
- How is this story similar to something I have already experienced?
- What do I think may happen next? What do I think the piece may be about?

Being In and Moving Through an Envisionment

- What isn't being told? What would I like to still know?
- Who are these characters and are they like anyone I know?
- How do those people feel about their circumstances?
- How do I feel about...?
- What have I experienced in my own life that is similar to this? Different from this?
- What if the character...?
- What if it happened this way?
- What other texts have I read that inform this one and in what ways?
- How have the characters changed over time or across the story?
- What motivated the characters' behaviors or what led them to their actions?
- How would you describe the relationships of the characters in the text?
- How would someone from a different culture or background interpret the story?
- Do I like these characters? Does what they are doing make sense? Would I have done the same thing in this situation?
- How is the plot developing?
- What are the characters like? Are they acting as I expected?
- How do the characters feel about and relate to each other? How will this affect the story?
- How do I think the piece might end?

Sample Stance-Framed Questions

Stepping Out and Rethinking What One Knows

- How might I react if I were in a similar situation as the character in the text? Was I ever in a similar situation? Do I know anyone who was?
- What can I learn from the situation in this text?
- Why did I feel a certain way or act a certain way when I found myself in a situation similar to the one in the text?
- What were my choices? Did I make the best ones?
- How else could I have handled it? What should I do now?
- What did I gain from that decision? Was it the right one?
- How could I act if I wanted to become a more _____ person?

Stepping Out and Objectifying the Experience

- Are there any other texts that I have read that can inform my understanding of this piece?
- Why did the author choose that particular phrase, style, or organizational feature?
- How does the title relate to the construct of the story?
- How does the language and voice affect my understanding of the text?
- How does the author's voice contrast with my own perspective?
- Why did some of the word choices affect me so deeply?
- How can my understanding of literary elements (plot, setting, theme, characterization, and so forth) inform my envisionment?
- How would the piece differ if written, taken place, or read in another era or culture? How would I see things differently if I were from another culture, another era, or another's perspective?
- How do other interpretations of the text contrast with my own?
What are some other ways I can react to the text? Consider other perspectives, such as critical, feminist, or political.