

# Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January

Learning to: create inference questions based on different parts of the story.

Listen to the next part of our story first.

# What is an inference?

An educated guess. We can use evidence from the text and our own knowledge of the story to give an answer.

## Which question is an example of an inference question?

1) What does this phrase suggest about the mood?

*A ripple of excited apprehension...*

.....

.....

.....

1) Predict what would happen if Lyra is heard inside the wardrobe?

.....

.....

.....

The answer is number 2 because we would need to use evidence from the book to make an educated guess at what would happen. Question 1 is a vocabulary question because it's asking us to look at and understand a phrase from the story.

Which question is an example of an inference question?

1) What does this phrase suggest about the mood?

*A ripple of excited apprehension...*

.....  
.....  
.....

1) Predict what would happen if Lyra is heard inside the wardrobe?

.....  
.....  
.....

## Let's remind ourselves of how to write an inference question.

- Step 1: Understand what you have just read. Write a quick summary if this helps.
- Step 2: Look for evidence that might suggest feelings of characters or events that might happen later on.
- Step 3: Use that evidence to create a question.

Remember we have to read between the lines when answering an inference question. The answer won't be written down we have to look for evidence, which might give us a clue to the answer!

“The devil! He *knew* about the wine, I’m sure of it.”  
The Librarian murmured back, “He’s going to ask for funds.  
If he forces a vote –”  
“If he does that, we must just argue against, with all the  
eloquence we have.”  
The lantern began to hiss as Lord Asriel pumped it hard. Lyra  
moved slightly so that she could see the screen, where a brilliant  
white circle had begun to glow. Lord Asriel called, “Could  
someone turn the lamp down?”  
One of the Scholars got up to do that, and the room darkened.

Step 1: Understand the passage you’ve been given.

- The Master is angry because Lord Asriel knew about the poisoned wine.
- The Master and the Librarian discuss Lord Asriel asking for more money and how they will refuse.

Step 2: Look for evidence which might suggest how characters are feeling or events that might take place.

- “The devil! He *knew* about the wine” – suggesting anger
- “He’s going to ask for funds.” – they’re worried Lord Asriel might ask for more money.

Step 3 – Use the information to create a question. Here are some sentence starts we could use.

- Why do you think the Master poisoned the wine?

Can you think of one for this passage?

## Examples of Inferential Questions

Texts Clues + Background Knowledge = Inference

- Why...
- Why do you think...
- What is the problem?
- Why did the character...
- What can you conclude about...
- What is most likely true about...
- Predict what would happen if...
- Predict what will happen when...
- What lesson does this text teach?
- How does the author feel about...
- How did the character feel when...
- What generalisation can you make?
- What lesson did the character learn?
- From this story, you could probably guess...
- What would happen in a sequel to this story?

Step 1: Understand the passage you've been given.

- Lord Asriel introduces everyone to Dust.
- Incredulity means being unable to believe something.

“It’s coming down,” said Lord Asriel, “but it isn’t light. It’s Dust.”

Something in the way he said it made Lyra imagine *Dust* with a capital letter, as if this wasn’t ordinary dust. The reaction of the Scholars confirmed her feeling, because Lord Asriel’s words caused a sudden collective silence, followed by gasps of incredulity.

“But how –”

“Surely –”

“It can’t –”

“Gentlemen!” came the voice of the Chaplain. “Let Lord Asriel explain.”

Step 2: Look for evidence which might suggest how characters are feeling or events that might take place.

- “gasps of incredulity.” – suggesting the Scholars cannot believe what they are seeing.
- “But how –” “Surely –” “It can’t –” The Scholars can’t even finish their sentence because they are so shocked.

Step 3 – Use the information to create a question. Here are some sentence starts we could use.

**Can you try to write 2 of your own inference questions? You can use the sentence starters.**

Here’s a suggestion

Predict what will happen when...

## Examples of Inferential Questions

Texts Clues + Background Knowledge = Inference

Why...

Why do you think...

What is the problem?

Why did the character...

What can you conclude about...

What is most likely true about...

Predict what would happen if...

Predict what will happen when...

What lesson does this text teach?

How does the author feel about...

How did the character feel when...

What generalisation can you make?

What lesson did the character learn?

From this story, you could probably guess...

What would happen in a sequel to this story?