

Figure It Out Inferences

When You begin reading a narrative or nonfiction text.

How?

Use the 5Ws: Ask and answer, Who, What When, Where.

Example Narrative Texts: Who are the characters? Who is telling the story? Who is the main character? Where are the characters? When is the story taking place? What's really going on?

When there is dialogue.

How?

Ask/determine who is speaking by noticing who is talking to whom. Track when the main character is talking and the reply of the other character.

Notice if the dialogue is tagged or untagged. Tagged dialogue tells you who is talking. For example, "I am upset about this," Mary said.

Untagged dialogue is when the author doesn't say who is talking. For example, John asked if Mary was upset. "I am not upset she replied." Mary is responding to John's question if she is upset.

When time and place change/move

How?

Notice when a scene changes. Ask, why is the author showing/telling me this? Think about how the change in time and place contribute to the meaning of the story.

When the author uses pronouns such as he, she, them, they.

How?

Notice which characters are interacting in the scene; or who is not in the scene but is being thought or talked about.