

# SMART™ Lesson

## Asking Questions When Reading Nonfiction

In nonfiction texts, the author is sharing factual information, ideas, and opinions. As you read, it is important to ask questions to help you better understand the text and think critically about the content. Here are some tips for asking questions:

### 1. Before Reading

Preview the text by reading the title, subtitles, and section headings. Think about what you already know about the topic and what you want to learn. Start jotting down questions that come to your mind.

### 2. During Reading

As you read, pay attention to details, facts, and examples. Try to connect what you are reading to what you already know or to other texts you have read. Keep asking questions, such as:

- What is the author's purpose in writing this?
- What is the main idea and supporting details?
- What evidence does the author provide to support their claims?
- Are there any biases or assumptions made by the author?
- Is the author presenting both sides of an issue or argument?
- What questions do you have about the topic?

### 3. After Reading

Review your notes and see if your questions were answered. If not, do some additional research or seek out other sources to find more information. Discuss the text with others and share your ideas and questions.

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## Worksheet

Answer the following questions about the nonfiction text you are reading:

1. What is the title of the text?
2. What is the author's purpose in writing this text?
3. What is the main idea of the text?
4. What evidence does the author provide to support their claims?
5. What questions do you have about the topic?
6. Are there any biases or assumptions made by the author?

Discuss your answers with a partner or in a small group. Did you come up with similar or different answers? Why?

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Asking Questions

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