

# Question types

This chart shows the range of question types in **Key Stage 2 Comprehension 4**, and the questions of each type found in each activity.

- **Literal** (or direct) questions ask children to retrieve information directly from the text – the answer is right there on the page. Sometimes children will have to retrieve information from more than one part of the text in order to answer these questions.
- **Inferential** questions rely on reading between the lines to work out the answer. This may mean using children’s prior knowledge and experience of the world in order to form expectations about the text, or piecing together clues from the text – or both. Inferential questions often call for the use of empathy, in order to understand characters’ actions and motivation.
- **Evaluative** questions ask for children’s own response to or opinion on the text, and should be backed by reasons. These questions often involve quoting appropriately from the text.
- **Language and structure** questions focus on the author’s craft and the way the text is constructed, and may relate to children’s vocabulary development as well as to aspects of the author’s style.

	Literal questions	Inferential questions	Evaluative questions	Language and structure questions
The rooks’ parliament		1, 2, 4, 5b, 7	1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Tudor wedding	1, 5	3, 4, 6, 7		2, 3
The way through the woods	1, 4, 6	2, 3	7	5
Chocolate	4a, 6a	1, 2, 3, 4b, 7		5, 6b, 8
Two owls	6, 7	2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12		1, 5, 8, 9, 11
Mammoth find	1a, 3, 5, 7, 9	1b, 4, 8, 10		1, 2, 6, 8
Poems that entertain	3, 6	2, 4, 5, 8	4	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
Child employment	2a, 3, 5, 7, 9	1, 4, 6, 8		2b, 8
To the cuckoo	1, 2, 7	3, 5, 6		4, 7
The magic of shells	1, 2, 3b, 5, 7	3a, 4, 6, 8, 9		3a
Our toilsome journey	3, 4, 6	1, 2, 5, 7		
Diogenes and the Cynics	2, 4, 6, 7	5, 8		1, 2, 3, 7
Welcoming Grace	2, 4, 6	5, 8		1, 3, 7
Scott of the Antarctic	2, 3, 5	6, 7, 8		1, 4
Scott’s last letter	3, 5a, 7	4, 6		1, 2, 5b
Carried with a mighty force	4, 5	1, 7	8	2, 3, 6, 8
Victorian Christmas	1, 3, 4, 7, 8	2, 6		4, 5
From father to son		2, 3		1