

Question types

This chart shows the range of question types in **Key Stage 2 Comprehension 3**, 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
Jacky Daydream remembers	9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8		6
Seal saves drowning dog	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11	4, 6		8
You are old, Father William	1, 2, 5b, 8a, 9	6b, 7, 8b		3, 4, 5a, 6a
Welsh hero Simon Weston	2, 3	1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9b		7, 9a
Matilda joins Crunchem Hall	1, 2, 7, 8	3, 5, 6		4
Rats	1, 2, 3, 6	5, 7	5	3, 4, 8, 9
Mischievous Tom	1, 2, 5, 6, 10	3, 4, 7, 8, 11		7, 8, 9
Sixteen steps to the ice-house		2, 3, 5, 6	7	1, 4, 7
Sea fever	8	3, 4, 5, 7	1	1, 2, 6
The hippogriff’s tusk	1, 2, 3, 7	4, 8		5, 6
Keepsake Mill	3, 6	2, 4, 5, 7	9	1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9
Bilbo the hobbit meets Smaug	5, 7a	1, 2, 3, 4, 7b, 8		4, 6, 9
The woman of water	3, 5	1, 2, 4, 7	6, 8	6, 8
Respected relative	2, 4, 7	1, 9, 10		1, 3, 5, 6, 8
Toad learns a lesson?	4, 5, 6	3, 7, 8		1, 2, 6, 8, 9
How music made peace	1, 2, 4a, 5, 6, 7, 9	4b, 8		3
Pyramus and Thisbe	3, 8, 9	1, 6, 11	10	2, 4, 5, 7, 10
Laws affecting women	1, 2, 3, 5, 8	4, 6		3, 7