

Primary Level

1. four sentences
Dan gave his little dog Sam a bath. He brushed Sam's black fur. He made him look nice. Then off to the dog show they went.

1. What was the name of Dan's dog?
2. Why do you think Dan gave Sam a bath?
3. Why do you think it was important for Sam to look nice?
4. What might you picture happening next?
5. What is the main idea for all this imagery?

2. four sentences
Bob and Tom went to the beach. They looked for small holes in the wet gray sand. When they saw a hole, they got their shovels. They went over to a hole and dug up a clam.

1. What did Bob and Tom dig up at the beach?
2. Why do you think they looked for small holes in the sand?
3. How might the wet sand help them?
4. What might you picture happening next?
5. What is a good title for all this imagery?

Level One

1.

three sentences

Jill is at the Great Wall of China. She passes many people as she climbs up the steps. The wall winds up and down the hills like a long snake.

1. Where did you picture Jill?
2. Do you think the wall is long or short? Explain.
3. Why do you think many people are there?
4. Why do you think the wall looks like a long snake?
5. What is a good title for all this imagery?

2.

four sentences

The big white polar bear stood by a large hole in the ice. The bear did not move for an hour. Finally, a seal came up out of the water and took a deep breath. Then the bear pounced, but the seal was too fast.

1. How long did you picture the polar bear waiting by the hole?
2. Why do you think the polar bear stayed by the hole so long?
3. Why do you think the polar bear did not move while it waited?
4. Why do you think the seal came out of the water?
5. Do you think the bear caught the seal? Why or why not?

Level Three

1. *four sentences*
Fainting goats act strange when they are scared. While most animals will run when frightened, these goats do not. When these goats hear a loud noise their bodies get very stiff and they fall over. After ten or fifteen seconds, they get up again.

1. What is the name of this kind of goat?
2. What do most animals do when they are scared?
3. Why might these goats not run when they are scared?
4. Why do you think they fall over when their bodies become stiff?
5. Why do you think these animals are called fainting goats?

2. *four sentences*
Tom sat in the boat as it cut through the water north of Hong Kong. As the boat began to slow down, Tom searched the dark water. Then he saw a flash of pink. He grabbed his camera and started taking pictures of the rare pink dolphins.

1. What was Tom looking for?
2. Why do you think the boat slowed down?
3. Why might Tom have wanted to find the dolphins?
4. What might be a reason that these dolphins are considered rare?
5. What is a good title for all the imagery in this story?

3. *four sentences*
Jan loved lying on her back in the green grass and finding shapes in the fluffy white clouds. She would see clowns, pirate ships, elephants, and other shapes. Soon the wind would carry them away. However, sometimes Jan just got very wet.

1. What did you picture Jan seeing in the clouds?
2. Do you think Jan had a good imagination? Explain.
3. Why do you think Jan sometimes got very wet?
4. How might the wind affect the clouds? Explain.
5. What might you picture happening next?

Level Three

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Level Four

1.

five sentences

Moroccans have a good luck charm called the Khamisa hand. Worn as a pendant or hung on a door, the Khamisa is shaped like a human hand. If the fingers are spread out, it is meant to keep bad luck away. If the fingers are closed, it brings good luck. The Khamisa comes in gold or porcelain and may be studded with jewels.

1. What is the Khamisa hand?
2. Why do you think someone would wear a Khamisa as a pendant?
3. Why do you think Moroccans would hang an open hand on the door?
4. Why might a hand be used as a charm?
5. What is the main idea of all this imagery?

2.

five sentences

The miller ant has a special job to do for its nest. He has a huge head with powerful jaws. He grinds grain into smaller bits. After the harvest season is over, the other ants bite the miller's head off so they don't have to feed it. Then the colony eats up the grain until the next harvest season when new millers are born.

1. What kind of ant is the story about?
2. Why does a miller ant need powerful jaws?
3. Why do you think the other ants don't just grind the grain themselves?
4. Why do the other ants wait until the harvest season is over before they bite off his head?
5. Why is the miller's job special and important?

Level Six

1.

five sentences

The people who live around the Loch Ness lake in Scotland believe a monster swims in its depths. For hundreds of years, people have reported seeing a strange creature swimming in the huge lake. Some think it is the descendant of a swimming dinosaur trapped in the lake long ago. Others think it is a large otter or a tree trunk floating in the water. The few blurry photos that exist help bring thousands of tourists each year to stare at the lake and search for the shy monster.

1. What do you visualize for where the Loch Ness monster lives?
2. Why do you think some people believe it is a monster?
3. Why do you think others believe it is a tree trunk or an otter?
4. Why do you think so many people want to see the monster?
5. Why might blurry photos cause thousands of people to visit the Loch Ness each year?

2.

four sentences

Soda pop was first used as medicine. The carbonated drinks were first sold in drugstores and said to help all kinds of ailments. Many of the drinks had strange ingredients and a bitter taste. But with advertising and a healthy dose of sugar, the tonics became the popular drinks enjoyed today.

1. Where did you visualize soda pop first being sold?
2. Why do you think it was first used as medicine?
3. Do you think the first soda pop was popular? Explain.
4. Why do you think a healthy dose of sugar helped soda pop's popularity?
5. How might advertising have helped soda pop become popular?

Level Seven

1.

six sentences

The kiwi is an odd bird with hair-like feathers that is native to New Zealand. With only a pair of stubby little wings, the kiwi cannot fly and has to spend its life on the ground. Instead of making nests, the kiwi lives in burrows built under logs or tree roots, often making a new one each day. Unlike other birds, kiwis have nostrils at the ends of their long thin beaks, so they can sniff underground for food such as worms and insects. They can also be seen with their beaks up in the air to check for predators. Proud of this strange bird, the people of New Zealand have chosen it as their national symbol.

1. In what country are kiwi birds found?
2. Why do you think kiwi birds spend their lives on the ground?
3. Why might kiwi birds build their burrows under logs and tree roots?
4. Why might having nostrils at the end of their long thin beaks help them find food?
5. What might be one reason the people of New Zealand chose this bird as their national symbol?

2.

six sentences

The Navajo women have had a long tradition of weaving beautiful blankets and clothing with intricate designs. They started by shearing the wool from the sheep they raised and combing the fibers straight. Then the women would lead a strand of the wool onto a weighted stick called a spindle, which was twirled to spin the wool into yarn. Next, they dyed the yarn in water heated over a fire with natural dyes made from plants and berries. Finally, yarn was woven on a loom. The result was a vivid piece of cloth with geometric designs that was used to make a blanket or clothing.

1. What did the women use to spin the wool into yarn?
2. Why do you think it was important to comb the wool before spinning it?
3. Why do you think the Navajo women dye the yarn?
4. What might be some colors that the Navajo women could get from berries or plants?
5. Do you think Navajo women still use this method to weave cloth? Explain.

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