

How Do I Choose and Use Support from the Text?

RL 7.1, RI 7.1

Explicit questions...

- are clear and obvious.
- ask “right there” questions found in the reading material.
- usually start with *who*, *what*, *when*, and *where*.

For explicit questions, all you have to do is search for an answer or textual evidence that is found **DIRECTLY** in the passage.

Read this...

In 1872 a Jamaican sugar planter imported nine furry little mongooses from India to eat the rats which were devouring his crops. They did such a good job, the planter started breeding his exotic animals and selling them to eager farmers on neighboring islands.

... and answer these explicit questions.

Q: What quote from the selection shows the purpose of importing mongooses?

Q: According to the selection, why did “the planter started breeding his exotic animals and selling them to eager farmers on neighboring islands”?

*Notice how the answers are directly in the story. This is why looking back and checking your answer in the passage is so important!

Implicit questions...

- are NOT directly stated in the reading material.
- require you to make an inference, or use clues from the text to help you out.
- require you to make predictions and summarize.
- usually start with *why* or *how*.

These are tougher than explicit questions because you will not find the answer directly in the passage. Instead, you will have to find evidence and think about that evidence.

Read this...

With no natural predators- like wolves, coyotes, or poisonous snakes- the mongoose population exploded, and within a few years, they were killing not just rats but pigs, lambs, chickens, puppies, and kittens. Dr. G. Roy Horst, a U.S. expert on mongooses, says that today mongooses live on seventeen Caribbean islands as well as Hawaii and Fiji, where they have attacked small animals, threatened endangered species, and have even spread minor rabies epidemics.

...and answer these implicit questions.

Q: What quote from the selection gives support to the assertion that mongooses could be dangerous for humans?

*The answer WILL NOT be clearly stated. Ask yourself, “what in this passage could harm humans?” That is your answer!

Q: What quote from the selection gives support to the assertion that pet owners living in the Caribbean islands, Hawaii, and Fiji should be extra protective of their pets?