Questions for Narrative Story Structure

NOTE: Not to be used as a student handout. The following are meant to assist teachers to ask effective questions.

Remember

• Who are the main characters?
• When did the story take place? (setting)
• Where did the story take place? (setting)

Understand

• What is the main idea of the story?
• What are the major events in the story?
• Sequence the events of the story.
• Retell the story.
• Describe the setting. Describe the main character.
• What is the mood of the story?
• Give examples of when ___________ (a character) felt ________________.
• What is the problem in this story?

Apply

• Does the story remind you of anything?
• What do you predict will happen next if the story continues?
• How is the problem solved in this story?
• Can you think of other possible solutions to the problem?

Analyze

• Why do you think ___________ (a character) did ______________ (an action)?
• How did ___________ (a character) change/grow during the story?
• What caused ___________ (a character) to change/grow?
• Why do you think ___________ (a character) felt ________________?
• ___________ (a character, setting, problem) is like ___________ (another character, setting, problem) because ____________.
• ___________ (a character, setting, problem) is different from ___________ (another character, setting, problem) because ____________.
• How did ___________ (a character) feel when ___________ (an event) happened?

 Evaluate

• A place in the story I’d like to be is _______________ because ______________.
• A place in the story I would not like to be is _______________ because ______________.
• My favorite part of the story was _______________ because ______________.
• I like this story because ______________.
• I do not like this story because ______________.

Create

• What if you were _______________ (a character, a place), what would you do?
• How could you change the story to make it more _______________?
• Suppose _______________, then what would have happened?
• Create a new setting/problem for the story.
• Imagine you are ______________ (a character) and plan a day in her/his life.

Adapted from the Texas Reading Teacher Academies (2000). Texas Education Agency.