

How To: Key Questions:

It is important that you are thorough and deep in your answers to your Key Questions for every book you read. Please use the following as a guide for your work and remember to use complete sentences for all questions except #1:

#	Question	How many sentences?	Notes
1	Character Names	List only	You can combine question 1 and 2 into a chart to help you organize your thoughts. Question 1 is just simply a list of all the main characters in the book.
2	Character Description	2 sent/char.	Please do not stop at a physical description. Also include a description of their personality or mental state. Be specific and include descriptive words. If the book is not specific about a character please include what you thought they looked like (or how their personality might be) when you were reading or what they looked like in the illustrations.
3	Settings	1 sent/place	Please describe all of the major settings in the story using descriptive words.
4	Plot	6	The plot can be broken up into three parts: 1. One sentence about how the story starts. 2. Three sentences with one or two events per sentence that lead up to the climax. 3. Climax – This is the BIG event near the end of the book that “changes” everything. You should use two sentences to tell what happened.
5	Good Things	3	You have two options: 1. Write about three good things that happened to the characters in the book. 2. Write about three good things or things you liked that the author does with the book.
6	Bad Things	3	You have two options: 1. Write about three bad things that happened to the characters in the book. 2. Write about three bad things or things you did not like that the author does with the book.
7	Conflict	3-4	Describe the conflict of the book. Remember that there are four major kinds of conflict in literature: 1. Character vs. Character 2. Character vs. Nature 3. Character vs. Themselves 4. Character vs. Society
8	Ethical Decision	3-4	Please describe a decision that had to be made in the story that involved making a choice. Did the character choose well in your opinion? Was it a “good” choice or a “poor” choice? How did it work out for that Character?
9	In the End	3-4	Explain how the story ends with lots of detail. Include information about how the characters change and your thoughts on the book as a whole.