Text Dependent Questions: Sample Question Starters

- Why does the author…?
- [Identify portion of text] What does this tell you about…?
- Why would the author want to draw attention to that detail?
- The author includes a number of details about ______. Look at each action. What does the author want you to understand about ______?
- What evidence does the author give to support his or her description of ______?
- The author provides a list of ______. What do these ______ have in common?
- Why does the author make a point of saying ______?
- Using evidence from the text, explain why ______ is a good title for this selection.
- [Identify portion of text] What is the author’s purpose in using this language?
- Using the (map) and reading the text, what inferences can you draw as to reasons why ______?
- Identify specific details/passages in the text that led you to infer ______.
- List at least three ways the author has described ______.
- What impact do these descriptions have on ______?
- At what point does the author ______?
- What happened to cause ______?
- Why is this shift to first person important?
- What does (character) do to show ______?
- (Character) and (character) have three very important things in common. What are these?
- What evidence is there in paragraph ______ that ______?
- What text structure(s) does the author use to ______?
- Why is the text structure effective?
- Why was…?
- What instances…?
- How did…?