



Improving Comprehension with Questioning the Author by Isabel Beck & Nancy McKeown
Section 1: Questioning the Author: Helping Students Engage Deeply with Text

Chapter 1: Texts and the Way Students Understand Them

Chapter 2: Queries

- traditional questions vs. Queries
- 2 types of queries – 1) initiating queries 2) follow-up queries
- narrative text – pg. 50
- examples of queries – pg. 57

Chapter 3: Planning – Goals while anticipating comprehension roadblocks

1. Identify major understandings
2. Segment the text (examples, 66, 68, 72, 76-84)
3. Develop queries that promote development of understandings

Chapter 4: Discussion – Interrogating a text together and building a case for one another' ideas

- Comparison of Traditional and Questioning the Author Discussions pg. 91
- 6 QtA Discussion Moves (starting on pg. 92)
 1. Marking
 2. Turning-Back
 3. Revoicing
 4. Recapping
 5. Modeling
 6. Annotating

Look at ending notes on
pg. 110 for key points and
FAQ

Chapter 5: Implementation – pg. 126 & 127 – Planning and Reflection Guides

Section 2: Implementing QtA: 25 Classroom Cases (arranged in order from most useful)

1. Getting Discussion Going
2. Segmenting Text
3. Responses in the Right/Wrong Mode
4. Too Little Text Covered
5. Follow-Up Queries
6. Student Responses That Contain Wrong Info.
7. Ideas Going Astray
8. Focusing Comments
9. Not Getting Anywhere
10. Unanticipated Student Comments
11. Making Connections
12. Lengthy Student Responses
13. Collaboratively Building Understandings
14. Helping Students Grapple
15. Listening to Students' Responses
16. Making It a Discussion
17. Keeping Hold of Text Ideas
18. Keeping Track of Information
19. When Discussion Gets Repetitive
20. Classroom Participation
21. Evaluating Student-Initiated Ideas
22. Constructing Meaning
23. When It's Hard to Form a Query
24. Building Toward Understanding
25. Assessments and QtA