

Making the most of reading texts



Girl reading at the bus stop by Dave Mears on flickr

Ceri Jones
The Macmillan Online Conference 2013



Making the most of what?

to carry new titles and a £10,000 contribution" for room to stock material in its stores.

Then, at the meeting, Asda laid down on those demands as well as blaming the episode on the naivety of a staff member, who had previously been a buyer overseeing electrical goods. She simply treated her new responsibility



How? When?

before reading

creating reading tasks

focusing on form

following up

revisiting



BEFORE READING



Working with headlines

- spelling dictation
- whispered / mumbled dictation
- jumbled / jigsawed / gapped



Working with headlines

T-H-E R-E-S T-L-E S-S-M I-N-D



Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND

A



Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND

LAZY
CURIOUS

...



Working with headlines

THE | RESTLESS | MIND
PERSON



Working with key words

human brain
development
memory
dreams



Key words in sentences

human brain
development
memory
dreams

Debates are on-going over
the _____ of the _____
and the role of _____ and
_____ in consciousness



Working with first sentences



Working with first sentences

era fading in memorisation
digital away is



Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true



Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true

B: dreaming wishes come



Working with first sentences

A: practice lucid true

B: dreaming wishes come

The _____ of _____
_____ can make
_____ .



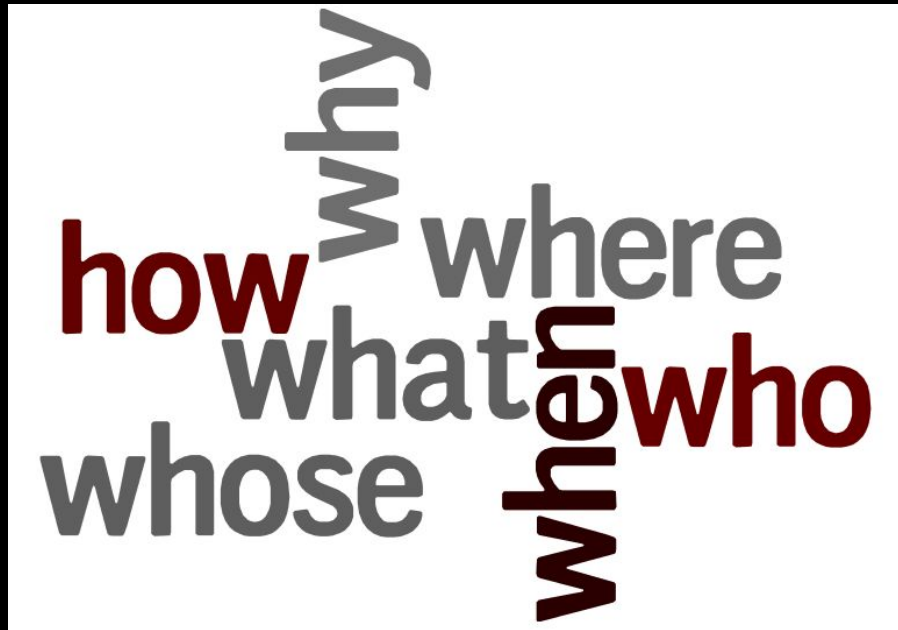
CREATING READING TASKS



Asking questions



Asking questions



My family's experiment in extreme schooling



My family's experiment in extreme schooling

Whose family is it?

What kind of experiment was it?

Why did they conduct the experiment?

What was extreme about the schooling?

Where did the experiment take place?

When did the experiment take place?

Was it successful?



My family's experiment in extreme schooling

Whose family is it?

What kind of experiment was it?

Why did they conduct the experiment?

What was extreme about the schooling?

Where did the experiment take place?

When did the experiment take place?

Why was the article written?

Who is it written for?



My family's experiment in extreme schooling

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/18/magazine/my-familys-experiment-in-extreme-schooling.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0



Reader response code



Reader response code

- ☹ if you feel sympathy for the people involved
- ☺ if you agree with the decisions taken
- ! or ? if there's anything else that strikes you as interesting – or puzzles you



Exploring themes and threads



Exploring themes and threads

- the parents' decisions
- the kids' reactions
- the parents' reactions
- the school



Exploring themes and threads

- the parents' decisions
- the kids' reactions
- the parents' reactions
- the school

Exploring lexical sets

- emotional reactions
- ...



FOCUSING ON FORM



Focusing on form: gap fills



Focusing on form: gap fills

Most foreign correspondents, like expatriates _____ general, place their children _____ international schools. Yet sending them _____ a local school seemed _____ us _____ an inspiring idea. After all, children supposedly pick up language quickly. So what if mine did not speak a word _____ Russian and could not find Russia _____ a map?



Focusing on form: verbs



Focusing on form: verbs

Julie and I talked. I wondered whether it might be better if I went to the school and persuaded Arden to stay until the end of the day, if only in a quiet room, reading a book in English. Julie wanted her picked up, reasoning that it would be smarter to start fresh tomorrow. I didn't want to argue about it. When I found her at school, she brightened. It was as if she were being rescued.



Focusing on sentences



Focusing on sentences

to school wanted I
give to the time
more



Focusing on sentences

to school wanted I
give to the time
more

I wanted to give the school
more time



Focusing on sentences

school wanted I
give the time more



FOLLOWING UP



Following up

- competitive summaries
- identifying key words
- writing discussion questions
- ...



REVISITING



Reconstructing sentences



Reconstructing sentences

phone / ring / stomach / clench /
hear / voice. “Daddy / home”
say / 8-year-old daughter,
Arden.

Arden / spend / minutes between
class periods / hide / bathroom /
no one / see / cry.



More revisiting

- Simply retelling
- Recalling key words
- Retelling from key words / first sentences
- Revisiting student-created exercises
- Dictating/dictoglossing an extract/paragraph from the text
- ...



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www.cerij.wordpress.com/workshops
@cerirhiannon

