

The Lexile Framework for Reading in Action

Dense Questioning

- Pre-Reading
- During Reading
- Post Reading

Description: Dense Questioning is strategy used for guiding students through a series of conceptually challenging questions that encourage making connections between different texts, and between text and real world.

How It Works: Dense Questioning can be used at two different difficulty levels. At the first level, students are asked to answer a series of questions based on specific aspects of the text. As students become more sophisticated in their reading, they can be given the activity at a more difficult level of formulating their own questions that correspond to the set of categories. As students engage these multiple perspectives, their understanding of the text becomes richer and more sophisticated.

How It Can Be Used: Dense Questioning can be useful in all content areas.

- ◆ Dense Questioning is a strategy best employed at or below a student's Lexile measure.
- ◆ Dense Questioning may be used with a partner, small group, or as part of a class discussion.
- ◆ Dense Questioning may be used as a practice to develop topics for writing assignments (e.g. the questions may be reworked as a thesis statement for an assessment of the text).
- ◆ Different groups may be assigned different types of questions. The groups may then be reformed so that students may share their questions.