

Question Answer Relationships (QAR)

Question-Answer Relationships, or QAR, is a reading comprehension strategy developed to "clarify how students approach the tasks of reading texts and answering questions" (Raphael 1986). It encourages students to be active, strategic readers of texts. QAR outlines where information can be found "In the Text" or "In my Head." It then breaks down the actual question-answer relationships into four types: **Right There**, **Think and Search**, **Author and Me**, and **On My Own**.

Here are some samples:

In the Text: Answers to these questions can be found by looking directly in the text.

1. *Right There*: Who is the main character?
2. *Think and Search*: How did the character return home?

In My Head: These questions require you to synthesize what you already know with what is in the text.

1. *Author and Me*: Would you have made the same choice the character made?
2. *On My Own*: Do you know what it's like to feel jealousy?

Right There	Think and Search	Author and Me	On My Own
The answer is in one sentence of the text; the question and answer usually have the same wording. Answers usually are one-word or short-phrase responses. There is usually only one right answer to Right There questions.	The answer is found by searching several parts of the text and requires higher-level thinking: comparing, inferring, drawing conclusions when the answer is not directly stated, describing tone, etc. The question and answer have different wordings. Answers are usually short answers.	The answer to the question comes from both clues in the text and students' prior knowledge. Students must synthesize the text with what they already know to fully understand and answer the question. Complete responses require explanation.	The answer comes entirely from students' prior knowledge. These questions require inferential and evaluative thinking. Answers do not require information from the text but do require that students make some type of judgment about or relate to the topic of the text. Answers require students to reflect, explain, share an experience, or tell a story.
Who is....? Where was...? What is...? When did...? How many...?	For what reason...? How did...? Why was...? What caused...? What are the most important...?	Would you...? <i>Why</i> ? Which character...? <i>How do you know</i> ? Did you agree...? <i>Why</i> ? What did you think of...? <i>Why</i> ?	What do you think...? Have you ever...? Would you ever...? Have you felt...? When have you...?