Levels of Comprehension



What levels of comprehension are there?

Each text has three levels of meaning: literal, inferential and evaluative. To understand the full meaning of a text, students need to understand each level.

LiteracyPlanet's Levels of Comprehension

Literal Level

- recognise what the words say and what they mean at a factual level (i.e. who, what, where and when)

Inferential Level

- recognise what the words are suggesting or implying (i.e. why, how, what if)

Evaluative Level

- recognise the writer's purpose (i.e. is the author biased, reasonable, accurate, etc.)

How LP does it

To help students understand each text at all three levels of comprehension, every text includes literal, inferential and evaluative questions. These questions are designed to develop students comprehension and critical thinking skills.

With LiteracyPlanet's Comprehension Guide, teachers can assign tasks that help develop students comprehension skills. Each question informs the teacher and student what comprehension strategy is being used. Teachers can also use these questions to discuss and model the skill to the whole class.

