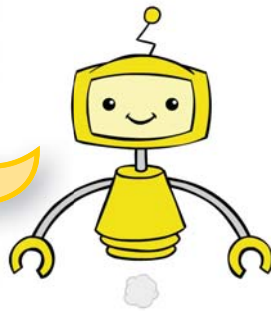


Reading between the lines

One of the stories I read to Peter was based on the well-known Indonesian fable *Kancil and the Crocodile*. I know Peter understood the gist of the story, but I wonder if he was able to read between the lines and actually grasp the deeper meaning of the tale. Let's see how good you are at 'reading between the lines'.



LINKS TO:
Stage 2, Module 5
Learning Object 3: Storytelling

1 Reading for inference

An important comprehension skill is reading for inference. Inference is where competent readers can see past what is written directly on the page and can read 'between the lines'.

Inference means seeing beyond the literal meaning of a text and drawing conclusions that are not explicitly, or directly, stated in the text.

Making inferences involves gathering evidence from the text. You are already familiar with many decoding strategies to help you make sense of a reading comprehension text such as:

- identifying the text type
- identifying the themes
- identifying the the purpose and the audience
- identifying the main ideas
- identifying words that you need to decode.

In order to make inferences you will need to have a good grasp of the text by using all these skills.

In Stage 2, Module 2, Work Sheet 7, *Zak and the mystery of the message*.

2 Exercises

Exercise 1

Let's look at some examples of reading, literally, what is 'on the line', and reading 'between the lines'.

Read the sentences and then answer the questions.

1.1 *Pak Sugianto membeli mobil kuning baru.*

1.1.1 What colour car did Mr Sugianto buy?

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1.1.2 Where did you get the answer from?

(circle one)

on the line

between the lines

1.1.3 How did you know this was the answer?

1.2 *Pak Sugianto membeli mobil baru yang berwarna seperti matahari.*

1.2.1 What colour car did Mr Sugianto buy?

1.2.2 Where did you get the answer from?

(circle one)

on the line

between the lines

1.2.3 How did you know this was the answer?

Exercise 2

2.1 Read the following fable.

Highlight the key words.

Anjing dan bayangannya

Tukang daging melempar tulang kepada seekor anjing sebagai hadiah. Anjing itu segera bergegas pulang. Saat menyeberangi sebuah jembatan yang sempit, dia kebetulan melihat ke bawah dan memandangi bayangan dirinya di air yang tenang seperti cermin. Anjing itu berpikir bahwa dia telah melihat seekor anjing lain yang membawa tulang yang jauh lebih besar dibandingkan tulangnya.

Tanpa ragu dia menjatuhkan tulangnya dan melompat ke arah anjing yang ada di sungai, namun dia hanya menemukan dirinya berenang mencapai tepi sungai untuk menyelamatkan nyawanya. Akhirnya dia berhasil keluar dari air dan saat dia berdiri dengan sedih memikirkan tulangnya yang hilang, dia menyadari bahwa dia seekor anjing yang bodoh.

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2.2 Use the graphic organiser* to identify what you think the text on the previous page is really saying. To help you, read the questions next to each shape.

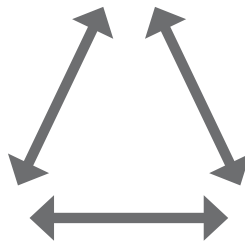
What lesson or moral do you think the author is trying to convey?

Write your opinion, in **English**, in this box.

I say / I think



Evidence from text*



What do I really know about this?

Have I experienced something like this before?

* Text = words, images, diagrams and graphics

In **Indonesian**, write down the key words and phrases from the text that back up your opinion. Write your answer in the triangle.

Can you draw on your prior experience or knowledge to confirm what you think the text is saying?

Write your answer, in **English**, in the circle.

* *Insight into Inference*, Teaching and Learning, Queensland (Department of Education and Training) 2009.

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2.3 Reread the text and answer the following questions, in English.

State whether you found your answer 'on the line', 'between the lines' or 'beyond the line' by circling the appropriate option in each question.

Note:

Sometimes the answer is 'beyond the line'. This means that it is not in the text and you must use your opinions, knowledge or experience to answer the question.

2.3.1 What did the butcher give the dog?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.2 Why do you think the butcher gave this to the dog?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.3 What happened when the dog saw his reflection in the water?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.4 What happened to the dog once in the water?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.5 Do you think that this dog had an owner? Why?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.6 What can you infer about the personality of this dog? What character traits did it have?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

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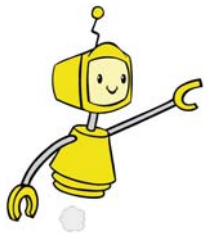
2.3.7 What lessons did the dog learn?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

2.3.8 What do you think the dog will do next time next time the butcher gives him a bone?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

Exercise 3



Here is some more practice.

Let's refine your inference skills by trying out another type of text.

3.1 Read the text below.

Rico Toselly (Kak Rico) Pendongeng Expresif Dan Jenaka

Kak Rico, pria kelahiran Jakarta berdarah Padang, Ambon dan Manado adalah pendongeng terkemuka di Indonesia masa kini.

Sebelum menjadi pendongeng Rico Toselly lebih senang terlibat dalam dunia teater, musik dan hiburan lainnya. Namun pada tahun 2004, berawal dari ajakan salah seorang kawannya untuk ikut dalam sebuah workshop dongeng, Kak Rico merasakan kenikmatan mendongeng yang sangat berbeda dibanding dengan bermain

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dalam teater atau komedi. Sejak saat itu Kak Rico merasa bahwa mendongeng merupakan profesi yang sangat tepat untuknya.

Kak Rico juga merasakan bahwa dongeng membuatnya menyayangi dan mencintai anak-anak Indonesia. Bagi Kak Rico, dunia anak adalah dunia yang jujur, indah dan mempesona. Baru tujuh tahun belakangan ini, Kak Rico mulai sangat terlibat dalam dunia pertunjukan dan kegiatan anak-anak, khususnya sebagai pendongeng.

Teknik yang digunakan Kak Rico dalam mendongeng termasuk jenaka, seru, musikal, ekspresif dan edukatif dengan memakai metode bercerita dramatisasi. Teknik dan cara bercerita tersebut menghasilkan pertunjukan dongeng yang sangat menghibur, berkesan dan mengandung pesan.

Answer the following questions.

State whether you found your answer 'on the line', 'between the lines' or 'beyond the line' by circling the appropriate option in each question.

3.1.1 Where was Rico Toselly born and what is his cultural background?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.2 How was he introduced to the art of storytelling?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.3 What field was he involved in before he achieved fame as a storyteller?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

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3.1.4 Why did he decide that storytelling was the most suitable profession for him?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.5 What most inspires him in his career as a professional storyteller?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.6 What techniques does he bring to storytelling that set him apart from other performers?

How effective do you think these techniques are?

Give reasons to support your view.

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.7 Why do you think he has taken on the stage name Kak Rico?

What does it suggest about the relationship between him and his audiences or followers?

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I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.8 Kak Rico performs in both English and Indonesian. **If he was to tour Australia, would you attend one of his performances?**
Why? Why not?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line

3.1.9 **Does Kak Rico have any peers in the Australian children's entertainment industry?**
If so who are they and in what ways are they similar or different to Kak Rico?

I found the answer: on the line between the lines beyond the line