

Possible Questions

A set of possible questions to discuss the writing passages at Byrdseed.TV. Don't ask every question every time (there are way too many). Some questions lend themselves better to some passages. Feel free to adapt!

Openers

General questions to get students thinking about and interacting with the passage.

- What do you notice in this writing?
- What do you like? Dislike?
- What is something this passage makes you wonder?

Getting More Specific

Some of these may have already come up with the openers. No need to ask every question.

- What nouns are interesting?
- What verbs are interesting?
- *(you can ask the same thing about any part of speech)*
- Do you see any figurative language? What do you like about it?
- What do you notice about the passage's sentence length?

Larger Responses

These questions require analysis and evaluation and could lead to written responses.

- Has this author broken (or bent) any rules? How does that make their writing better and/or worse?
- Compare this passage to another writing passage. What is better and/or worse about this one?
- Rewrite a *bad* version of this passage. Explain your changes, using specific language of writing.

Rewriting

These prompts require synthesis. Students will be more successful if they go through some of the lower-level questions above.

- Copy this passage's style, but write about a different topic.
 - What is the style of this passage?
 - What words or phrases contribute to the style?
 - Now, use that same style, but write about a new topic.
- Rewrite this passage but change the tone.
 - What tone will you pick?
 - What words or phrases will you use to show that tone?
 - Now, rewrite in that tone.