Detective Readers

Making inferences and proving them with evidence



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Clues are everywhere

We work out hidden meanings every day from what people do and say.

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What good readers do

🔍

Find clues

Spot important words and actions in the text.

🧠

Use knowledge

Add what you already know about life.

💡

Infer meaning

Work out what is suggested but not said.

📖

Prove it

Quote exact evidence to back it up.

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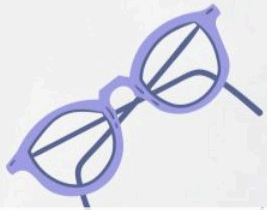
From clue to conclusion

Spot a clue in the text → **Add what you already know** → **Make a smart inference** → **Prove it with quoted evidence**





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Think, pair, share



He grabbed his coat and dashed for the door, grinning. What can you infer? How do you know?

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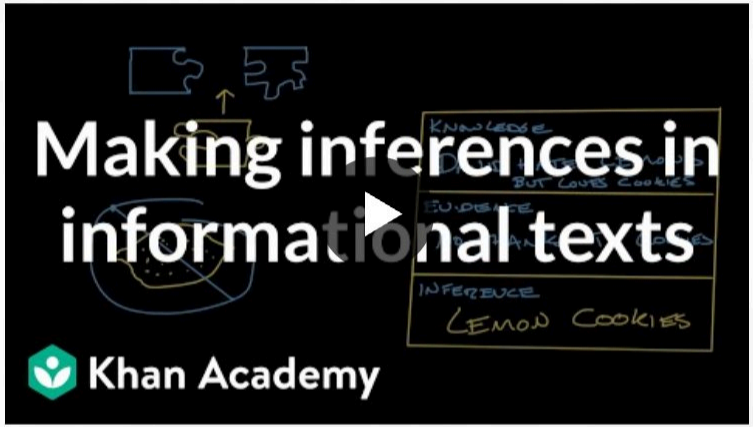
How to make inferences



▶ 0:00 – 3:56

- Watch for clue plus knowledge
- Listen for the detective trick



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Infer like a detective

1. Find a clue in the words
2. Add what you already know
3. Say what it suggests
4. Quote evidence to prove it

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Back it up with evidence



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Spot the quoted evidence
- Check if the proof fits

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Your task



Be a detective on a short passage and prove your inference with a quote.

1. Read: Lights flickered. The girl pulled her jacket tight and rubbed her arms. Rain hammered the windows. She stared at her cold soup.
2. Write one inference plus one short quote.
3. Compare with your partner and improve.

10 min

In pairs

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Key words

inference

A smart conclusion from clues plus what you know.

evidence

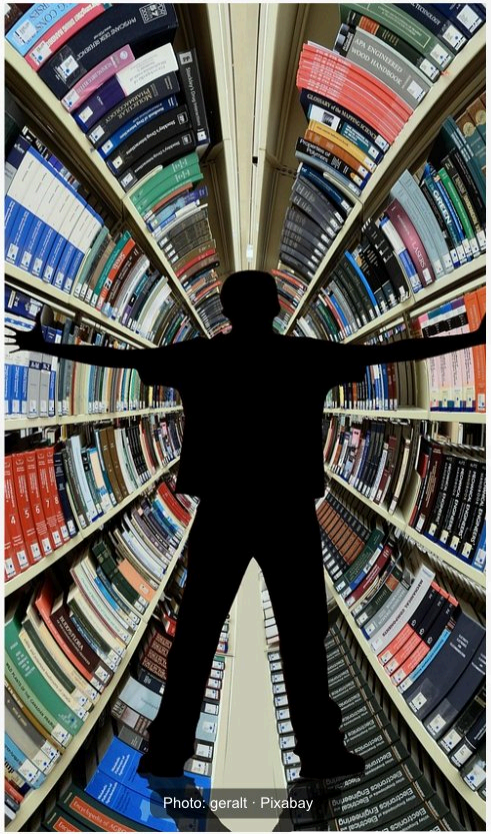
Words from the text that prove your idea.

imply

To suggest something without saying it directly.

deduce

To work something out using clues.





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What matters most?

When you make an inference, what matters most?

A. Spotting exact text clues

B. Using background knowledge

C. Quoting strong evidence

Vote with your hands, then explain why.

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Exit ticket

1

One inference I made today was...

2

One thing I learnt about evidence...

3

One question I still have...





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