

Select a few of these to focus on and spend just 2–5 minutes in discussion before reading.

Preview

- Look at title or cover illustration and discuss what the story might be about
- Encourage learner to engage with the text by talking about their own knowledge and experiences that might relate to the story
- Introduce and explain any new words.

Specific features

- Discuss layout, author, illustrator, blurb, captions and chapters
- Discuss genre
- Talk about style of writing, type of narrative language used.

Setting the scene

- Establish what the setting of the narrative is
- Identify the theme of the book/poem
- Ensure learners justify their opinions, ask ‘what makes you think that?’
- Encourage learner to make deductions about characters, setting, possible themes, and morals and so on. Return to these after reading.

Figure 4.13 Improving comprehension: Activities before reading



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