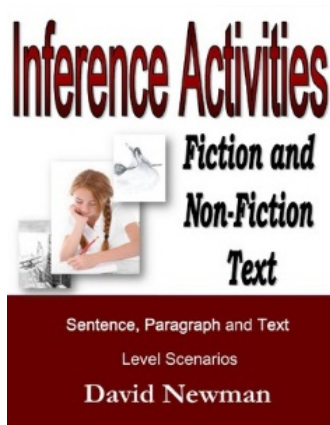


Inference Activities

by David Newman BAppSc (Speech-Language Pathology)

Thank you for taking the time to look at the **Inference Activities** program. All of the activities have been tested on many of my students over a long period of time.



The questions and activities in the program have been designed to be as user friendly. The activities will assist your students to sharpen and improve their **inference** and **thinking skills**.

I have included a full table of contents and thumbnails of some of the exercises and activities included in the program to give you a sense of the look and feel of the activities.


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Some thumbnails of activities in the program...

Chapter One

Inference from Pictures and Text



'We flew to the ruined and deserted city'

a. Why is the caption of the picture *'The ruined and deserted city'*?

Answer: _____

b. Would the plane have difficulty landing? How do you know that?


Answer: _____

c. Would it be cold flying an airplane with an open cockpit?

Answer: _____

Chapter One

Inference from Pictures and Text



'Adam had been warned to never sit in grandpa's chair. Now it was too late.'

a. Why had Adam been warned to never sit in the chair?

Answer: _____

b. Why is it *too late*?

Answer: _____

c. Is Adam still in his grandfather's house? How do you know?

Answer: _____

Chapter Three

Paragraph Level – Non Fiction - History

The following exercises focus on identifying inference at paragraph level. The exercises are examples of expository text (non-fiction) which typically relies on readers to infer hidden information.

Example: *In the old city of Istanbul, atop a hill, rests the Hagia Sophia, an ancient Christian church. The queue of tourists to see the Hagia Sophia is sometimes several hundred metres long.*

Question 1: Is the Hagia Sophia very old? How do you know that?

Question 2: Is the Hagia Sophia a popular tourist attraction? How do you know that?

Answer: The Hagia Sophia is described as ancient, so it is very old. We can describe it as a tourist attraction because of long queues of tourists.

Inference Exercises: Paragraph Level - History

One: Henry Ford

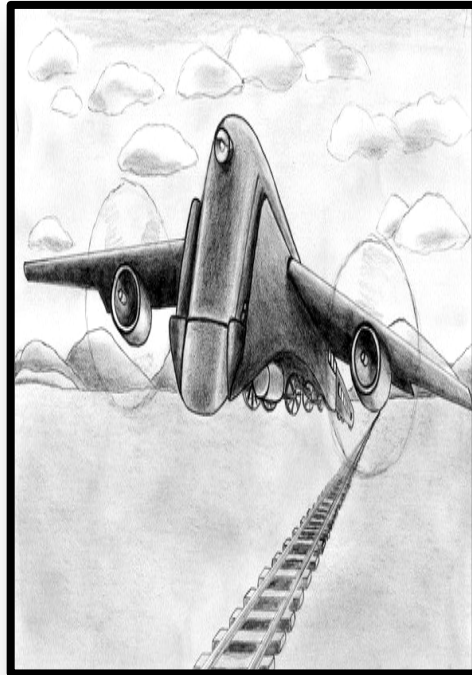
Henry Ford was the first to mass produce motor cars on an assembly line. He did this with the popular Ford Model T car between 1908 and 1927. The car was both cheap to buy and run.

Question 1: Were motor cars mass produced before 1908? How do you know that?

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Feel free to print out
the bonus inference
activities from the
inference activities
book below...

Inference from Pictures and Text



'I got the shock of my life when the train left the tracks and became airborne.'

a. Why did the character get *the shock of his life*?

Answer: _____

b. Is this scenario science fiction or real life? How do you know that?

Answer: _____

c. Why don't trains have wings?

Answer: _____

Sentence Level Inference

Concept: What

What refers to what is happening or has happened, and what someone is or is doing.

Example: On the vessel's highest mast was a black flag with white skull and crossbones.

Question: What type of vessel is being described?

Answer: An old pirate ship

Critical Information: Highest mast, skull and crossbones.

Inference Exercises: What

One: *The captain*

The captain announced over the intercom that all passengers needed to fasten their seatbelts and prepare for landing.

Question: What type of transport were the passengers on?

Two: *The riders*

As Peter glanced over his shoulder at the other riders, his foot slipped off one of the pedals and he nearly toppled over.

Question: What nearly toppled over?

Paragraph Level, Non-Fiction - *Weather*

One: Temperature

A thermometer measures the warmth of the air. The most comfortable temperature for people to live in is usually 20-25 degrees Celsius, or 68-77 degrees Fahrenheit. When the temperature drops below 20 degrees Celsius it is more likely that people will wear more clothes. At temperatures above 25 degrees, people will like to be near water.

Question 1: Why do you think people would wear more clothes when the temperature is below 20 degrees Celsius?

Question 2: Why would people want to be near water at temperatures above 25 degrees Celsius?

Two: Fog

Fog can be very difficult to see through. Fog is made up of millions of tiny droplets of water that absorb sound, and make vision quite difficult. If heavy fog occurs on a busy freeway, drivers have to slow down. Driving a car quickly through dense fog will soon lead to accidents.

Question 1: Would it be easy to hear clearly in a dense fog?

Question 2: Why would driving a car quickly through thick fog be dangerous?

Paragraph Level - *Animal Kingdom*

One: *The Bar-Tailed Godwit*

The Bar-Tailed Godwit is a type of wading bird that is famous for making the longest non-stop migration. Each year the Godwit migrates from the cold state of Alaska all the way down south to New Zealand, a distance of over 11000 kilometres. The Godwit spends the winter in the more temperate environment offered by countries such as New Zealand.

Question 1: Why might the Godwit migrate to the temperate regions of New Zealand at winter time?

Question 2: Does the Godwit stop to rest during its long flight?

Two: *The Colossal Squid*

The Colossal Squid is one of the rarest animals known to man. The squid is famous for its huge size, hence the name colossal. The animal is about 13 meters long. If the squid were to be carved into calamari, the rings would be as big as tractor tires. This deep sea monster has the largest eyes in the animal kingdom, as big as dinner plates.

Question 1: Have there been many Colossal Squids captured?

Question 2: Would the Colossal Squid have good eyesight?

Paragraph Level – Fiction - *Adventure*

One: *Top of the mast*

The captain ordered me to the top of the mast. The main sail needed to be secured. The wind howled and its sharp fingers scratched at my shirt, making it ripple fiercely. The waves pounded against the ship's wooden beams. Each wave thrust the ship to the side and the main mast shivered, nearly tossing me down into the violent swell of the ocean. I hung onto the mast for dear life, determined to do my job.

Question 1: What was the weather like? How do you know that?

Question 2: Is the character frightened? How do you know that?

Two: *Old Boxy*

The whole family from the homestead hurried over to see me ride Old Boxy. Everyone was here to watch the show. I carefully placed my left boot in the stirrup, lifted up and swung into the saddle. My heart beat so hard I thought I might faint. The brute stood motionless as I kicked with my heels. Then, with a malicious launch, the creature's back legs thrust out, and I was airborne and soon lying face first in the mud.

Question 1: What is Old Boxy? How do you know that?

Question 2: Is Old Boxy well known for being difficult to ride?

To learn more about this program and others like it make sure you visit www.speechlanguage-resources.com

On the site you will discover a wealth of valuable information and free downloads to help improve your students' language and literacy skills.