Dense Questioning
Catcher in the Rye (as an example)

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| **Type of Question** | **Description** | **Questions Generated** |
| Text | Information found in the text | Who is the narrator of the story? |
| Reader | Reader’s experience, values, and ideas | Have you ever felt fed up with everything and just wanted to take off, get away on your own? |
| World or Other Literature | Knowledge of history, other cultures, other literature | What other character—in a book or movie—would you compare the main character to? |
| Text / Reader | Combines knowledge of text with knowledge of history and other cultures | What characteristics do you share with the main character? |
| Text / Other Literature | Combines knowledge of text with knowledge of other pieces of literature | How does Holden’s relationship with his sister compare with Esperanza’s in The House on Mango Street? |
| Reader / World | Combines knowledge of reader’s own experiences with knowledge of other culture and peoples | In what ways are teenagers in other countries similar to American teens? In what ways are they different? |
| Reader / Other Literature | Combines knowledge of reader’s own experiences with other pieces of literature | In what ways are you similar to and/or different from Holden and Esperanza?  |
| Dense question   | Combines knowledge of all three areas into one "dense question | Why does Holden feel alienated and how is that related to what many of today’s teens feel? Include in your answer a discussion of the extent to which you do or don’t share these same feelings and why. |