



BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Sample Questions

The following are some examples of questions asked in written and oral battles. Not all questions will fall into such precise categories.

1. “Name of important character or significant nickname of a minor character”
Give the first and last name of the Battle character who was told “You’re not graceful enough to be a dancer. You can’t be a pilot either because you can’t stand heights. You wouldn’t even look at the pictures I took of the Grand Canyon because you said they made you dizzy.”
2. “In what book” questions
In what book are foxes believed to possess evil magic and that looking into the eyes of a fox would bewitch you?
3. “Important setting or location”
What city does Shirley Temple Wong move to from China in 1947?
4. “Short answer – significant event or object”
In the SHAKESPEARE STEALER, what did the bells that rang at 9:00 P.M. in London signal?
5. “Comparison with another book(s) on the list”
In the book MAGYK you met the seventh son of a magician. In what other Battle book were you introduced to the seventh daughter of a king?
6. “Why” questions
On the class trip to the Amish Village, Mrs. May would not let Joey Pigza eat any shoofly pie. Why?
7. “Quotation directly from the book”
In MRS. FRISBY AND THE RATS OF NIMH, who told Mrs. Frisby that “All doors are hard to unlock until you have the key?”
8. “Definition of unique terms or important words”
In THE BIRCHBARK HOUSE, what does Neewo mean?
9. “Give one out of two or more possibilities”
In DEALING WITH DRAGONS, a frog suggested three alternatives to marrying Therandil. Cimorene took the third suggestion, running away. Give ONE of the frog's other alternatives.
10. “Multiple Choice”
In ANYTHING BUT TYPICAL, the Storyboard Convention took place in what state?
A. Arizona B. Texas C. Florida D. California
11. “True or False”
In MAGYK, Marcia failed to Imprint the final shield bug charm she created by placing the millipede in the preserves.

ANSWERS

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------|
| 1. Andi Walker | Duncan | p. 83 |
| 2. SINGLE SHARD | Park | p. 82, 114 |
| 3. Brooklyn, NY | Lord | p. 26 |
| 4. Curfew | Blackwood | p. 38 |
| 5. DEALING WITH DRAGONS | Wrede | p. 2 |
| 6. Because the pie had too much sugar. | Gantos | p. 58 |
| 7. Her late husband, Jonathan | O'Brien | p. 32 |
| 8. Fourth | Erdrich | p. 37 |
| 9. 1) challenge him to a duel; 2) change him into a toad | Wrede | p. 10-11 |
| 10. B. Texas | Baskin | p. 106-7 |
| 11. True | Sage | p. 266 |

Helpful Hints

- Listen carefully to the question. Is it asking for the title of the book or the name of a character? Did the question ask for both a first and last name?
- There are 3 ways to answer a question about a Battle character.
 - If the question asks for the first and last name, both have to be correct.
 - If the question asks "Name the Battle character," you need to give a name such as "Mr. Veatch." You may give both the first and last names, but both names need to be correct. Saying "the fourth grade teacher" rather than a name would not be correct.
 - If the question asks "What Battle character" any identifying name or title would be acceptable.
- When giving a title, use the complete title as listed on our Battle Booklist, such as "Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH." Just saying "Mrs. Frisby" is not acceptable.
- We will not ask for more information if your answer is incomplete. However, be careful to not give so much information that part of your answer is wrong.