

## **Clarifying Questions for Listening and for Before During and After Reading**

A **CLARIFYING QUESTION** is what a reader asks to have information that helps with understanding the reading material. These kinds of questions can be asked at all three of the stages of reading: Before, During, and After. The answers to these questions, especially those asked before and during reading, might not be correct, but they are inferences and predictions about what the reading material might be about. They guide the readers' thoughts as they experience the reading. Use clues in the text and personal background experience to find answers to these questions.

### **STANDARD 2: COMMUNICATION**

√**0601.2.9 (U1)** and √**0701.2.8 (U4)** and √**0801.2.9 (U4)** Listen actively in group discussions by asking clarifying and elaborating questions and by managing internal (e.g., emotional state, prejudices) and external (e.g., physical setting, difficulty hearing, recovering from distractions) barriers to aid comprehension.

√ **0601.2.17 (U1)** and √**0701.2.16 (U4)** and √**0801.2.18 (U4)** Participate productively in self-directed work teams for a particular purpose (e.g., to interpret literature, to solve a problem, to make a decision) by adhering to the following:

- Articulate the goals that have been provided for the team work and ask appropriate clarifying questions.

**SPI 0701.2.7 (U4)** Select the most appropriate behaviors for participating productively in a team (e.g., ask primarily relevant questions that move the team toward its goal and contribute to the topic of discussion, articulate the goals that have been provided for the team work and ask clarifying questions, come to agreement by seeking consensus or following the majority).

### **STANDARD 6: INFORMATIONAL TEXT**

**SPI 0601.6.1** Formulate clarifying questions for use before, during, and after reading.

**SPI 0701.6.1** Formulate clarifying questions before, during, or after reading.

Examples:

#### **Before**

What do I know about the passage from looking at the illustrations?

What can I guess about the passage from reading the title?

What things do I already know about this topic?

What is the author's purpose for sharing this material?

#### **During**

What do the unfamiliar words mean?

What is the author explaining?

What is the author comparing or contrasting?

What does the information have to do with my experiences?

#### **After**

How can I summarize the material?

What do I know after reading the passage that I didn't know before I read it?

What information do I need to have in order to understand the material better?  
What additional information can I find out that is related to this topic?