**7th Grade ELA Comprehension Questions**

**“Magic and the Brain” p. 77-84**

1. ANALYZE STRUCTURE – TEXT FEATURES: The **title** (also called a **heading**) is the name attached to a piece of writing. A title is just one type of text feature, an element that helps organize or call attention to important information. **Look at the title and accompanying photograph at the beginning of the article (p. 77). How do both help the reader?** (RI.2.4, RI.2.5)
2. ANALYZE MEANINGS OF WORDS AND PHRASES: An **anecdote** is a brief account of an event that author’s use to make a point or provide information in a more memorable way. **Re-read lines 1–9. What words and phrases make the anecdote especially vivid?** (RI.1.1, RI.2.4)
3. ANALYZE STRUCTURE – TEXT FEATURES: **Sidebars** are boxes that appear alongside or within an article to provide additional information related to the text. Sidebars often contain **graphic aids**, such as charts, graphs, or photographs. **Read the sidebar on p. 79. How does the text and graphic aid add to our understanding of what the main article is about?** (RI.2.5)
4. SUMMARIZE THE TEXT: To summarize is to retell a text’s central, or main idea, in your own words. **Re-read lines 85–94.** **What is the central idea here? Summarize the paragraph.** (RI.1.2)
5. ANALYZE MEANINGS OF WORDS AND PHRASES: Authors choose words carefully to convey certain meanings. **Re-read lines 110-116 (p. 81) and consider the use of the word *robust*. What context clues help you determine the meaning of *robust*?** (RI.1.1, RI.2.4, L.3.4a)
6. SUMMARIZE TEXT: Stopping to summarize a paragraph as you read can help clarify meaning and help readers better comprehend the main idea. **Re-read lines 124-134 (p. 82).** **What is the difference between “covert misdirection” and “overt misdirection?”** (RI.1.2)
7. SUMMARIZE TEXT: In a longer article, it is sometimes useful to summarize an entire section instead of each paragraph. **Look at the heading above line 166 (p.** **83). Turn this heading into a question.** (RI.1.2)