<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Topic:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Main Idea:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Theme:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| What does **TOPIC** mean?  
- The subject of the story | What does **MAIN IDEA** mean?  
- A few words on what the story is about  
(not as detailed as paraphrasing/retelling) | What does **THEME** mean?  
- The central meaning or purpose to the story  
- A generalization about life |
| **Literary Example:**  
(Based on: Cinderella)  
A slave girl/princess | **Literary Example:**  
(Based on: Cinderella)  
Slave girl turns into a princess through magic. | **Literary Example:**  
(Based on: Cinderella)  
Kindness  
Perseverance  
Never giving up hope |
| **Informational Example:**  
(Based on: Water, Water, Everywhere)  
Water Cycle | **Informational Example:**  
(Based on: Water, Water, Everywhere)  
How the water cycle works | **Informational Example:**  
(Based on: Water, Water, Everywhere)  
Weather |

**Questions from TASK CARDS:**  
- What topic is covered in the article?  
- What information does the author use to support the main topic of this article?  
- Explain the topic of this passage.  

**Questions from TASK CARDS:**  
- What is the **MAIN IDEA** of this story/passage/article?  
- What is the most important lesson ____ learns in the story/passage?  
- Why do you think this story/article has the title “__________”?  
- What would be another good title for this story?  
- Which sentence best tells what the passage is about?  
- What is the essential message in the story/article?  
- Which sentence from the article tells the author’s main message?  

**Questions from TASK CARDS:**  
- What is a positive result of _____ in the passage?  
- What is the best lesson that can be learned from this passage?  
- What is the theme of this passage?