



ELSTON HALL

Multi-Academy Trust

Friday 15th May - Year 5 Reading
LO: To make inferences from a text.

Starter

Questions to think about.



Look carefully at the image.

What events have occurred over the 'last few years'?

Why has nobody played the piano for so long?

What kind of building does the piano live in?

What has happened to the people that used to play the piano here?

What has happened to the audiences that came to listen to the piano?

What kind of people came to listen?

Who was the last person to play this piano?

Will it be played again?

What is inference?

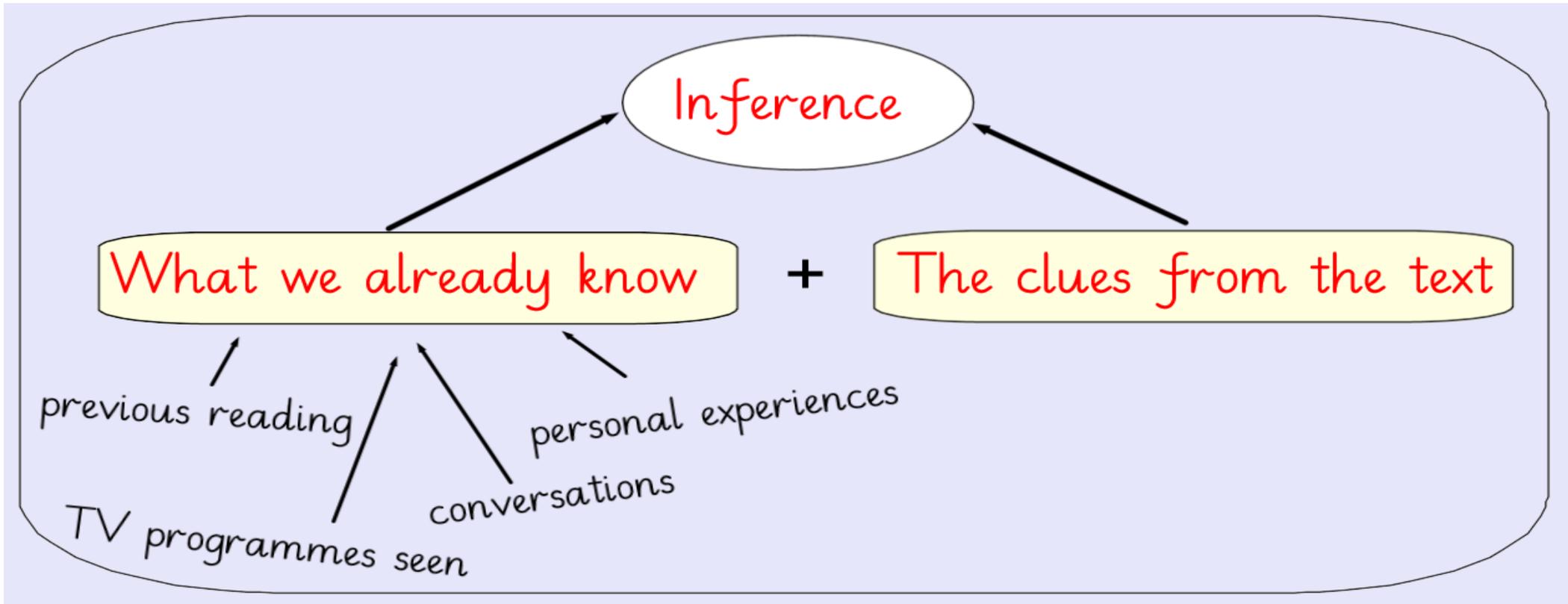
How do we use inference as we read?

Is it an important skill?

Is it a skill that you can learn?

Is it a skill that we would need
as we get older?





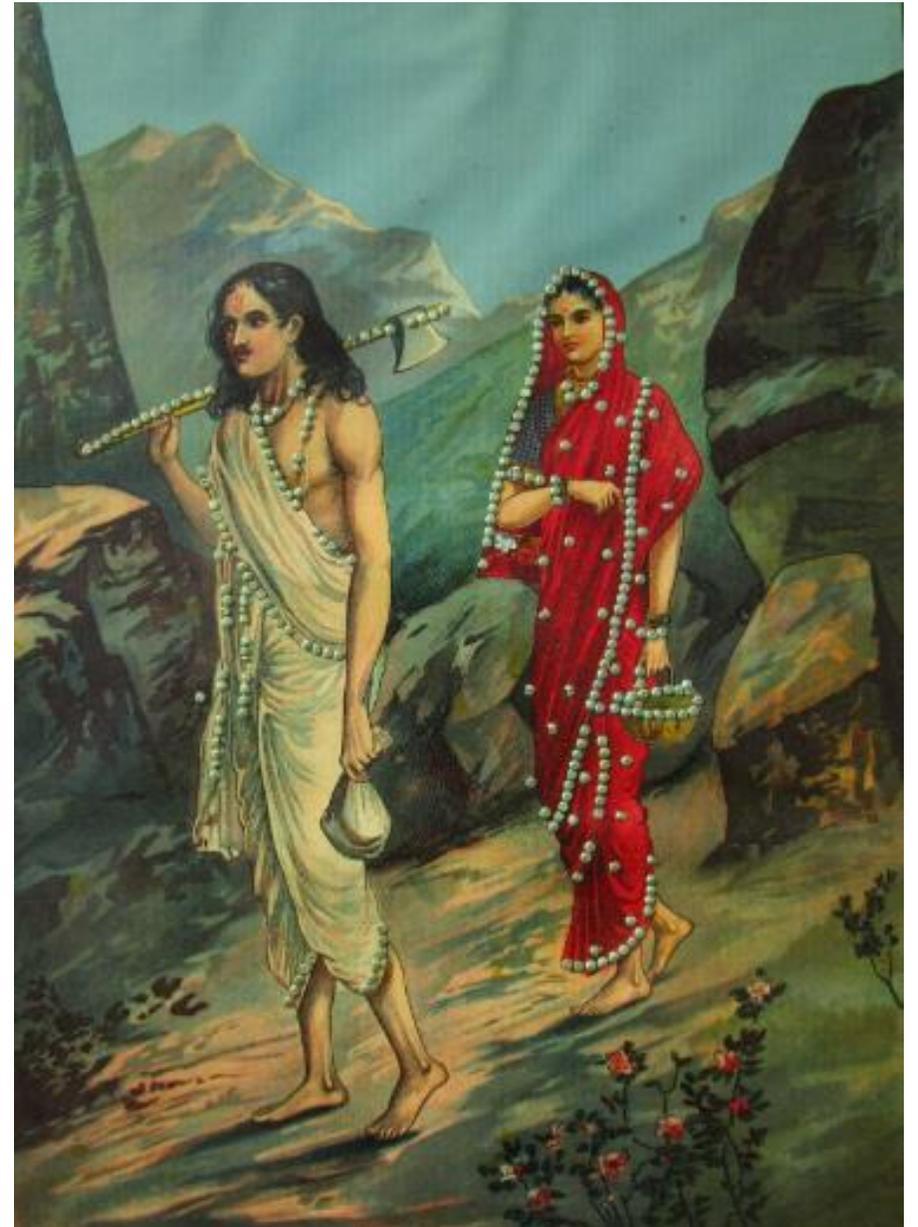
When we use inference we combine what we understand from the text plus what we already know.

The way in which we combine these explains why reading more also can help us to become better at inference.

Savitri and Satyavan

Carefully read the story on the following pages about a beautiful Princess named Savitri. She is beautiful, however, she is finding it difficult to find a husband as the men that she knows are intimidated by her.

Her father advises her to set out and find a husband, which is what she does...



Savitri and Satyavan

Savitri set out with a large procession of men, elephants, camels and horses. In her effort to visit all the cities of the world, she had to cross many oceans and deserts. She did this fearlessly. But she never found a man she could love.

When she returned home, her father said to her, 'You have looked in all the big cities of the world and have found no man that you wish to marry. Perhaps you should now search through all the forests of the world.'

Savitri set out again with a large procession of men, elephants, camels and horses, and began searching through all the forests of the world. Once again, she did this fearlessly.

She had looked through the last forest and was just about to return home when she came upon a young man who was cutting wood.

'What is your name?' she asked.

'Satyavan, your highness,' he replied.

'Please do not address me as "your highness",' she said, 'my name is Savitri.'

Savitri and Satyavan

'What do you do for a living?'

'I do nothing much,' the young man replied. 'I have very old, blind parents. I live with them in a small, thatched cottage at the edge of the forest. Every morning, I go out to cut wood and gather food. In the evening, I make a fire for my parents, cook their dinner, and feed them. That's all I do.'

Savitri returned to her father's palace and said, 'Dearest mother and father. I have finally found a man to love and marry. His name is Satyavan and he lives in a cottage by a forest not too far from here.'

'But will you be able to live a simple life in a simple cottage?' asked her father. 'This young man obviously has no money.'

'That makes no difference at all to me,' Savitri said. 'He is capable, honest, good and caring. That is what I respect and love him for.'

Savitri and Satyavan

The King sent a message to the blind couple's cottage saying that Princess Savitri wished to marry their son, Satyavan. When Satyavan arrived home that evening with his heavy load of wood his parents said, 'There are messengers here from the King. Princess Savitri wishes to marry you.'

'I love the young lady in question,' replied Satyavan, 'but it will be impossible to marry her. She has money, jewels, elephants, camels and servants. What can I offer her?'

Tears rolled down the faces of his blind parents.

'Son,' cried the mother, 'we never told you this, but long ago, before you were born, your father too was a ruler with a kingdom of his own. His wicked brother blinded us and stole our birthright. You should have been born a prince and heir to the kingdom, quite worthy of the beautiful Savitri. We have fallen on hard times, but if you two love each other, why should you not marry? Who knows what the future has in store for anybody?'

Savitri and Satyavan by Madhur Jaffrey

L.O: To make inferences from a text

4. Why do you think Savitri did not want Satyavan to address her as 'your highness' when they first met? [2 marks]
5. Why does Savitri think that Satyavan is 'capable, honest, good and caring'? [1 mark]
6. Why does Satyavan tell Savitri that he does 'nothing much' for a living? [2 marks]
7. What evidence is there in the text to support the idea that people with qualities like Satyavan are rare? [1 mark]
8. What do you predict happens next in the story and why? [1 mark]

Answers to the optional warm up Questions.

1. *parade* 1 mark

2. In the forest 1 mark

3. Tick one

A Savitri meets the man she wants to marry in a forest.

B Savitri sets off on journeys which seem to be impossible. ✓ 1 mark

C Satyavan is poor.

D Satyavan comes from a royal family.

Answers to the Inference Questions.

4 You should identify that Savitri feels that Satyavan is her equal as soon as they meet, so she does not want him to treat her differently because she is a princess. Also, titles like 'Princess' seem to be unimportant to Savitri. You might have referred to events later in the story where she says she wishes to marry Satyavan for his qualities. **1 mark**

Extra Mark: You may have noted that (as it turns out) Savitri and Satyavan really are equals, as Satyavan should have been born a prince. **1 mark**

5. You should identify that Savitri believes Satyavan to be '*capable, honest, good and caring*' because of his commitment to taking care of his parents. **1 mark**

6. You should identify that Satyavan's daily routine is very simple and repetitive so he does not think it is important, even though it means so much to his parents. **1 mark**

See next slide for 7 & 8

Answers to the Inference Questions.

7. You should identify that Savitri searched every city and forest in the world and must have met many people, but she could not find someone with the qualities that she wanted in a husband until she met Satyavan. **1 mark**

8. Any reasonable answer is fine as long as it matches the characters and the story in the text. **1 mark**

Well done

Extension. Questions based on the starter image.

Can you draw a picture, or describe in words the last person to play the piano?

Can you draw a picture, or describe in words the person who will play the piano next?