**Character Interview: Asking Questions That Require Inference and Synthesis**

**Inference:**

1. Ask a character what he or she would like to say to another character.

2. Ask characters about their feeling and thoughts at the climactic moment in the story.

3. Ask the characters to explain something hinted at in the text, but not fully explained: “Stepmother, why were you so mean to Cinderella?”

4. Ask the characters to explain a key event in the story.

5. Ask the characters to explain what happened before the story began.

6. Ask the characters their plans for the future.

7. Ask the characters to explain why they did something that may be questionable or unclear.

**Synthesis:**

1. Ask the characters what they learned from their experiences.

2. Ask the characters to express an opinion about something that happened in the story and explain their feelings.

3. Ask the characters if and how they would change things if they could do things over again.

4. Ask the characters what has changed because of the events of the story.

5. Ask the characters to explain how they are similar to or different from the characters in another version of the story.

6. Ask the author of the book the purpose for writing the story and why it is important for readers to consider.

Adapted from:

Kelner, L.B. & Flynn, R.M. (2006). *A Dramatic Approach to Reading Comprehension, Strategies and Activities for Classroom Teachers*. Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Heinemann.