



Compare your Think Aloud with Martin's Think Aloud:

Martin's Think Aloud: When I think about how to answer the first question, "Why did Ethan's hamster sleep all day and stay awake all night?" I first consider what type of question I am answering. I'm thinking that this question is an "Author and Me" question because it is asking me "why" something happened. This reminds me of Q'Lock Holmes! *Keep searching for clues and thinking about what you know!* I need to think about what I read and combine that with my prior knowledge or what I already know. I read, "His hamster slept all day long" and "In the quiet of the night his hamster was racing on the exercise wheel, skittered up the tubes, twitched his whiskers and munched his treats." I know about animals that sleep during the day and are awake at night, they are called "nocturnal" animals. I am able to answer this question by fitting together the information in the text with what I already know. Now I can answer the question. "Hamsters are nocturnal animals."

When I read the second question, "What is your favorite animal to visit at the pet store? Why?" I notice that it is asking about MY favorite animal to visit at the pet store. It is asking me to think about my own experiences and asks for my opinion. It also asks me to support my answer with a reason. This reminds me of Quoda! *Keep looking within yourself you have the answer!* So, I'll think about the many trips I've made to pet stores and the animals I like to see when I'm there. I'm allergic to all animals with hair, so the dogs and cats make me sneeze. But I do like to watch the brightly-colored fish swim fast. My answer to this question is, "Fish are my favorite animals to see when I visit a pet store. I like them best because of their bright colors and I like how fast they swim. I don't like to visit the dogs and cats, because I'm allergic to their fur and I sneeze when I'm around them."

Questions and Answers:

In My Head: Author and Me

Why did Ethan's hamster sleep all day and stay awake all night?

Hamsters are nocturnal animals.

In My Head: On My Own

What is your favorite animal to visit at the pet store? Why?

Fish are my favorite animals to see when I visit a pet store. I like them best because of their bright colors and I like how fast they swim. I don't like to visit the dogs and cats, because I'm allergic to their fur and I sneeze when I'm around them.

Hello Hamster

Ethan counted his money. "I have enough to buy a hamster!" he said. Ethan picked out a hamster, and a cage with climbing tubes. He also bought an exercise wheel. But when Ethan put his hamster in the cage, he burrowed in the bedding. **His hamster slept all day long.**



"I didn't know hamsters were so sleepy," Ethan said, disappointed.

In the **quiet of the night**, Ethan heard something. It was his hamster **racing on the exercise wheel**. Ethan watched as his hamster **skittered up the tubes, twitched his whiskers, and munched his treats**.

"I don't have a night owl," he laughed. "I have a night hamster!"

Questions to think about:

- How do *question stems* help signal "In My Head" questions?
- What type of thinking do you need to do in order to answer "In My Head" questions?
- Why is it helpful to use clues from the text and prior knowledge when answering an "In My Head" questions?
- Why might this strategy be useful?
- When might this process be useful?