First, here is a sample of a favorite story with DOK questions from PART I
FLYING

I wish I were a bird

and that I could fly,

I would go all the way up
to the top of the sky.

I would look way down and see my town.
I would never think about coming down. (41)

I would keep going up to the sun.
Keep on going and having fun.

Flying so free,
just the sky and me. (63)
FLYING

DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

LEVEL 1

- Describe a bird.
- Besides a bird, what else flies? (living, nonliving)
- In the story, where does the character want to fly?

LEVEL 2

- How are airplanes and birds different? How are they the same?
- If you could fly, where would you go? Why?
- If you could fly, where would you NOT go? Why?

LEVEL 3

- Why would flying be fun for you?
- What would have to happen for you to be able to fly?
- Describe why you believe a kite flies. Why do planes fly?

LEVEL 4

- Design and try out your own paper airplane. Now, try another design and compare.
Next, is a sample of a story with DOK questions from

PART II
DIFFERENT THAN MOST

When I smell pepper I do not sneeze. When most are cold I do not freeze. I learned my fours before my threes; I guess I'm different than most. (32)

I had trouble reading in the first grade. I failed that year, and so I stayed, for a second year shot at the first grade. I work hard now and have it made. (65)

I guess I'm different than most. (71)
DIFFERENT THAN MOST

DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

LEVEL 1

- Why did the student fail?
- How is the student in the story different than most?
- What are some other things that can make people sneeze?

LEVEL 2

- What is the main idea of this story?
- How are you different than most?
- The coach has asked for soccer tryouts. How do you get ready to try out?

LEVEL 3

- Given the information in this story, how do you think this person would prepare for their driver’s test? Describe how it is different than most.
- How can thinking differently, or outside of the box, be a positive trait?
- Think of a different way to eat soup. Why is your way better?

LEVEL 4

- Students who are different are often bullied in school. Come up with a school-wide plan (a logical argument) to eliminate bullying.

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The next story sample with DOK questions is from PART III
KATE’S FISH CAMP

It is just a little place that sits just off the highway. If you like to fish, it is the place to go. (26)

It is just a little place that sits right on the creek. It has boats and fishing gear for rent. (46)

It is just a little place with prices that are just right. You can sit on the banks of the creek and fish, all day if you wish. They have the best tasting burgers and fries anywhere. (83)

Catching a fish is almost guaranteed. Food and drink are just steps away from the creek. Kate’s Fish Camp may be small, but it’s big on fun. (110)
KATE’S FISH CAMP

DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

LEVEL 1

- How would you describe Kate’s Fish Camp?
- Where is Kate’s Fish Camp?
- Define the word bank as it is used in this story. What else does bank mean?

LEVEL 2

- Describe how you pictured Kate when you read this story.
- Estimate how many customers a small fish shop like this would have each day.
- What kind of things would Kate’s fish camp sell?

LEVEL 3

- What is another thing that Kate’s Fish Camp could do to make money?
- Compare and contrast Kate’s Fish Camp with Wal-Mart or Target.
- What are some of the difficulties in owning a small business?

LEVEL 4

- Describe what you would imagine Kate’s Fish Camp’s business model to be like. What are their costs and what do they have to do to make money?
Lastly, here is a sample of a story from the final section –

PART VI
Let us begin the tale of Roundball Rice
An incredible basketball star.
Let us take a close look at all he has done
And how he has gotten this far.

He was born deep in the guts of New York City,
Where the streets are mean and the girls are pretty;
Where roundball’s played in every neighborhood;
And the level of play is incredibly good. (67)

He was born in the middle of a basketball game.
His mom called, "Time-out!" The paramedics came.
They delivered him quickly, and then asked his name. (93)

"You can call the little squirt, Roundball - if it's all the same.
Now let me get back to my basketball game.
If the team lost it all now, I’d be the one they’d blame.” (127)

Now wouldn’t they?
And we couldn’t have that, now could we?
Now, hurry, take him to my man over there,
That babe will get plenty of care. (154)

An ignominious start to an unbelievable career
Sit back and listen, just give us your ear.
No one ever born was so made for the game.
Basketball has no chance of remaining the same. (188)
ROUNDBALL RICE

DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

LEVEL 1

● When was Roundball born?
● What is roundball?
● What does it seem Roundball Rice is born to do?

LEVEL 2

● What do you think Roundball’s mother cared most about during her pregnancy? Why?
● What do you think ‘ignominious’ means? What details did you use to guess the meaning of the word describing the start of his career?
● ‘Ignominious’ means shameful. What was shameful about Roundball’s birth?

LEVEL 3

● Given the style and content of the story, what do you think Roundball Rice is going to do?
● Legends often come from stories that become more changed and exaggerated over time. Can you think of a more realistic birth and early life Roundball Rice could have had?
● How would the story be different if Roundball were born to be a great scientist?

LEVEL 4

● Create a brief exaggerated story of a famous person’s upbringing that has some element of truth.