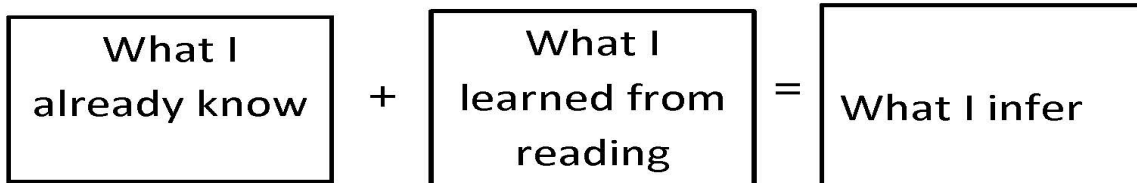


# Making Inferences

**Definition:** An inference is a conclusion that a reader makes while reading or after reading. This conclusion is based on what the reader knows outside of the text **plus** information that is presented in the text, like a guess.



## Keywords:

|              |                 |               |               |                 |                |                |             |                    |                 |               |              |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>imply</i> | <i>conclude</i> | <i>decide</i> | <i>decide</i> | <i>indicate</i> | <i>predict</i> | <i>suggest</i> | <i>seem</i> | <i>most likely</i> | <i>probably</i> | <i>assume</i> | <i>infer</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|

Therefore, when you are presented with questions that include the words above, you are being asked to make an inference.

## What will inference questions look like?

- 1- The question may ask you to respond by using clues from the text.
- 2- You may be asked to define a word used in a passage.
- 3- The question may ask you to read the authors mind based on clues.

## How should you answer inference-based questions?

- 1- Look out for the words that ask you to make a "guess." Examples of such words are presented above.
- 2- Make sure that your answer can be supported by information or details presented in the text.
- 3- Remember, when you are asked to define a word used in a text, your answer must be supported by the way it is being used in that specific text. That is because some words may have a different meaning based on how it is being used.