

The 5 W's (and one H)

What

Subject - What are they talking about? (*not the overall theological meaning at this point, but the specific circumstances or incident or topic of conversation*)

Who

Who is talking/ or who are the “characters”?

To whom are they talking?

Author - Who wrote the book & what were their circumstances?

Audience - To whom was it written?

When

When is the “What” happening? (*is this before the fall/ flood/ table of nations/ Israel/ before the exile/ after the exile/ before the crucifixion & resurrection or after/ is this looking to the future*)

When is the author writing? (*when in the timeline of the events he's addressing & when in the author's life & ministry*)

Where

Where is the “What” happening?

Where is the author writing from?

Why

Was a cause or purpose stated that led to the “What” happening? (fulfilment of God’s promises, results of sin are big cues)

Do we know the author’s stated purpose for writing?

What does this tell us about God, mankind, or the world, that we don’t learn anywhere else in Scirpture?

How

What were the means that were used to bring about the “What” or the “Why”?

Summary *(in your own words, what is this passage communicating)*