

How to Ask Questions That Prompt Critical Thinking

1: **Knowledge** Exhibits previously learned material by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts and answers.

- What is . . . ?
- When did ____ happen?
- How would you explain . . . ?
- Why did . . . ?
- How would you describe . . . ?

2: **Comprehension** Demonstrating understanding of facts and ideas by organising, comparing, translating, interpreting, giving descriptions and stating main ideas.

- How would you compare . . . ? contrast.. ?
- Explain in your own words . . . ?
- What facts or ideas show . . . ?
- What evidence is there that...?

3: **Application** Solving problems by applying acquired knowledge, facts, techniques and rules in a different way.

- What examples can you find to . . . ?
- How would you show your understanding of. . . ?
- What approach would you use to ... ?
- What might have happened if. . . ?

4: **Analysis** Examining and breaking information into parts by identifying motives or causes; making inferences and finding evidence to support generalisations.

- What inference can you make from. . . ?
- How would you classify . . . ?
- How would you categorise . . . ?
- Can you identify the difference parts... ?

5: **Evaluation** Presenting and defending opinions by making judgements about information, validity of ideas or quality of work based on a set of criteria.

- How would you compare?
- Which do you think is better....?
- Evaluate contribution of to
- What was the value or importance of in
- What would you have recommended if you had been?

6: **Creation / Synthesis:** Compiling information together in a different way by combining elements in a new pattern or proposing alternative solutions.

- What might have happened if... ?
- Can you propose an alternative interpretation to that of ?
- Is there a solution here?