

AN EXPANDED TAXONOMY OF QUESTIONS

Recall

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Tell State Name Indicate describe	Who? What? When? Where?	Answer questions Recite facts.

Literal comprehension

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Explain Summarize Restate Tell	What does this mean? How would you explain this passage. Can you summarize?	Answer questions. Draw. Précis or paraphrase 3-level guide

Inferential comprehension

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Infer Read between the lines Draw a conclusion Deduce	What is implied? What's it really saying? Read between the lines. What is intended but not stated? Is there more to this? What's the real message? What's the point here? Is there something you are missing?	3-level Guide Short answers True/false responses, with justification Translate into another form

Analysis

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Analyze Translate Compare Contrast Justify Defend Take apart Distinguish between Categorize Separate Chart	What do you know about? What's the problem? What groups or categories could we sort this into? What categories apply? How can we break this down? Where can you go from here? What about this? What's similar/different?	Line of questioning Make a chart Make a Venn or Young diagram Translate into another form. Make a list. Make a mind map

Problem-solving (application)

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Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Hypothesize Solve Account for Work out Justify Assess Put forward Theorize Argue	Why? To what extent? Assess Justify Explain Was X justified in . . . ? How can this puzzle be solved? What is the answer? What possible answers are there? Is there another possibility? What if?	Write an essay. Do a lab. Argue pros and cons T-chart

Evaluation

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Assess Evaluate Weigh Judge Determine Rank Argue	How justified? Which is better/best How valid? Weigh the pros and cons of Determine the worth of Assess the importance of Judge the validity of Put the case for To what extent?	Have a discussion Debate Write an essay. Write historical fiction

Ethical judgement

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Assess Weigh Judge Evaluate	Was X morally justified? Could a case be made that X was the moral thing to do? Weigh the morality of X. What ethical standards apply? How would you have acted? Could X have acted otherwise?	Have a discussion. Debate. Write an essay. Stage a play.

Empathy

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Understand Identify with Visualize Empathize Judge Imagine	How do standards differ between X & Y? What were the constraints on X? What did X know? What did X not know? What social pressures existed? What other pressures was X under? Was X the kind of person who would . . . ? What would it have been like?	Have a discussion Debate Write an essay. Write historical fiction Perform a role play

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Metacognition

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Reflect Think Analyze Ponder Examine Critique	How do you know? Do you know enough? What evidence have you? Is that argument valid? Are your facts correct? Does your conclusion follow from your premises? How did you reach your conclusion? Is your logic correct? Does that follow? Is your analysis sound? How do you do your best thinking?	Write reflection. Write essay. Draw mind map. Think. Engage in inner dialogue.

Synthesis

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Combine Synthesize Create Generate ideas	What new ideas can you come up with? What do you make of this? Can you develop an alternative explanation? Do you have an original theory about . . .? What is your own take on . . .? How do all these ideas/elements combine?	Mind map Diagram Brainstorm Write paragraph or essay Draw a picture Write a short story

Question Generation

Useful verbs	Sample question stems	Potential activities
Wonder Inquire Question Probe Reflect Think Analyze Imagine	What questions arise? What does this not say? What's missing? Do you know enough? What don't you know? Do you need extra information? What about . . .? Does this say anything about . . .?	Think of questions. Draw mind map with the gaps.