

QUESTIONING: TYPES OF QUESTIONS

Application Questions

These questions require the student to engage in a discussion of the relationship of facts to their application in some suitable environment.

"How does.....apply to?"

Comparative Questions

Comparative questions require comparison between items such as cases, theories, opinions, methods, etc.

"What do these two theories have in common....and how do they differ?"

Connective Questions

These questions allow the student to make a connection between matters not obviously related.

"How does.....relate favorably to the issues raised in?"

Critical Questions

Critical questions present the students with an alternative interpretation or point of view, and require the student to demonstrate familiarity with the original material (such as a reading assignment, an assumption, etc.

"How can one justify.....?"

Evaluative Questions

These questions are a combination of fact and assessment. In addition to the factual response, the student is asked to present an opinion or assess the response in terms of some value.

"Which point of view is more relevant to the discussion of.....?"

Factual Questions

These are sometimes needed to set a base line for discussion. One way to avoid competitiveness and a 'I am smarter than you' attitude is to use brainstorming techniques.

"What are some of the conditions that led to.....?"

Interpretation Questions

These questions allow the student to interpret information while maintaining credibility.

"How can one decide that.....is the best way to?"

Probing Questions

These questions are usually presented as a series of questions, each one requiring the student to delve deeper into the subject. They can be a combination of any of the types of questions included here.

Problem Questions

Problem questions can be limited to a very simple issue, or can be complex in nature. It is important to state the problem clearly, even when complex, so that students can focus attention on the desired elements.

"If the conditions are.....what would be some of the possible outcomes...?"

