



Four Levels of Questions (in ascending order of complexity)

Questioning at various levels moves you to thinking at those various levels. When we ask only basic questions, we think only the most basic thoughts. When we question at deeper levels, we think more deeply.

Summary & Definition Questions (focus on facts and details)

- What is/are...
- Who...? When...? Where...?
- How much...? How many...?
- What is an example of...?

Analysis Questions (focus on concepts)

- How...
- What are the reasons for...?
- What are the types/functions/processes of...?
- What are the causes/results of...?
- What is the relationship between X and Y?
- How does ...apply to...?
- What is/are the problems or conflicts or issues...?
- What are possible solutions/resolutions to these problems or conflicts or issues...?
- What is the main argument or thesis of...?
- How is this argument developed...?
- What evidence or proof or support is offered...?
- What are the other theories arguments from other authors...?

Hypothesis Questions

- If...occurs, then what will happen...?
- If...had happened, then what would be different...?
- What does theory X predict will happen...?

Evaluation

- Is ... correct or incorrect?
...effective or ineffective?
...relevant or irrelevant?
...clear or unclear?
...logical or illogical?
...proven or not proven?
...ethical or unethical?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of...?
- What is the best solution to the problem/conflict/issue?
- What should or should not happen?
- Do I agree or disagree? What is my opinion?
- What is my support for my opinion?

Source: <http://www.yorku.ca/cdc/lsp/downloads/reading.PDF>