

Four Level of Questions

**Understanding the four levels of questioning helps deepen comprehension, guides studying, and prepares you for exams.
Each level requires a different kind of thinking.**

Level 1: Summarizing / Definition / Fact Questions

These questions check basic understanding and recall.

- What is the definition of ____?
- Who did ____?
- When did ____ occur?
- How much / how many ____?
- What is an example of ____?

Level 2: Analysis / Interpretation Questions

These questions probe deeper understanding, relationships, and reasoning.

- How did ____ occur?
- Why does ____ occur?
- What are the reasons for ____?
- What types of ____ exist?
- How does ____ function?
- How does this process occur?
- What are my own examples of ____?
- What causes ____ to occur?
- What results when ____ happens?
- What does ____ mean?
- How is ____ similar to or different from ____?
- How does ____ affect or apply to ____?
- What is the relationship between ____ and ____?
- What conclusions can be drawn from this information?
- What are the problems, conflicts, or issues?
- What are possible solutions or resolutions?
- What is the author's main argument or thesis?
- How is the argument developed?
- What evidence, proof, or support is provided?
- What alternate theories or arguments exist?



Level 3: Hypothesis / Prediction Questions

These questions ask you to make logical predictions to propose explanations.

- If ____ occurs, what would happen?
- If ____ changed, what else would change?
- According to theory “x” what should happen?
- What hypothesis explains this data or information?

Level 4: Critical Analysis / Evaluations / Opinion Questions

These questions require judgment, justification, and personal or informed evaluation.

- Is ____ good or bad? Why?
- Correct or incorrect? Why?
- Effective or ineffective? Why?
- Relevant or irrelevant? Why?
- Logical or illogical? Why?
- Applicable or not applicable? Why?
- Proven or not proven? Why?
- Ethical or unethical? Why?
- What are the advantages or disadvantages of ____? Why?
- What is the best solution to the problem? Why?
- What should or should not happen? Why?
- Do I agree or disagree? Why?
- What is my opinion? What support do I have for it?

How to Use These Questions

1. Take any concept, idea or statement.
2. Choose one of the above questions from any level.
3. Attach it to the concept and add a question mark.
4. Go find and and record the answer.

EXAMPLE

What are the causes of climate change?

If policy changed, what would happen?



TIP: Many textbooks already include these types of questions in the chapter review sections, study guides and learning objectives.

- Survey your chapter and use these questions to guide your studying. They can help move you from memorizing to a deeper understanding.

