

Funny You Should Ask That!

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Two Commonly Asked Questions of Childhood

- Are we there yet?
 - Why?
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What is critical thinking?

- ❑ Critical thinking is disciplined, self-directed thinking. It requires thinking about your thinking while you are thinking in order to make your thinking more clear, more accurate and more defensible.

Paul & Elder

All familiar with

Bloom's Taxonomy

Higher Order Cognitive Skills

- Analysis
 - Synthesis
 - Evaluation
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Roughly Categorized Questions

- Evaluation questions
 - Problem solving questions
 - Discrimination questions
 - What if questions
 - Challenge questions
 - Reflection questions
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Problem-solving Questions

Modified problem based

Create the research question

What might be a research question that you would create to look for information about this problem?

Take several different questions and talk about why appropriate /inappropriate

(Usually put in a biased term)

What kind of information do you need to support these statements and where will you get it?

- It was a dark and stormy night.
 - License plates frequently give amusing advice to live by.
 - Women are smarter than men.
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Questions that require students to discriminate

- Ask the question - and ask them WHY
 - Which are scholarly/popular
 - Given a list of articles -
 - And how did you decide?
 - What is plagiarism/not
 - Is this a book, chapter, article?
 - What are the clues?
 - Is this a primary research article?
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- Is this article relevant?
 - Can you use it? Does it meet the parameters of the assignment.
 - Is it scholarly?
 - Or is it primary?
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What If Questions

- Show them the advantage of doing a "Subject Search" (do it first wide open then show subject)
 - Year round schools
 - Altruism

 - How can you cut this down? Narrow this search?

 - Add a second term - which doesn't work as a subject
 - Academic performance
 - Gender differences

 - When they get zero results - What do you do now?
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Lead them into deadends and ask them how to get out

- ❑ Carefully designed question that won't get them what they need
 - ❑ What if ...? Don't get enough - what can you do?
 - ❑ Or need to cover everything
 - ❑ They'll propose several things
 - ❑ OK, let's come up with another word
 - ❑ Where to put it?
 - ❑ What connector? What would happen if ... we used all ANDs
 - ❑ Do the search - bad results - What happened?/Why?
Is this even possible?
 - ❑ How to fix
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Challenge Questions

Example:

Find scholarly journal articles on the validity and reliability of the Coopersmith Self-esteem Inventory

Ask students to do something to convince

- What results did you get to the challenge question?
 - Compare with others
 - Convince others that you are right
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Reflection Questions

- What?
 - So what?
 - Now what?
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