

Three Tips for Writing Better Higher Level Thinking Questions

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1a. Get a list of good key-word prompts

Level 1
Knowledge

What is
Where is
Who were
When did
How would

Level 2
Comprehension

How would you compare
How would you rephrase
What is the best way to
Which statement supports

Level 3
Application

How would you
solve
What facts would
you select
What would
result if

1a. Get a list of good key-word prompts

Level 4 Analysis

Why do you think
What is the theme
How would you classify
What is the relationship
between

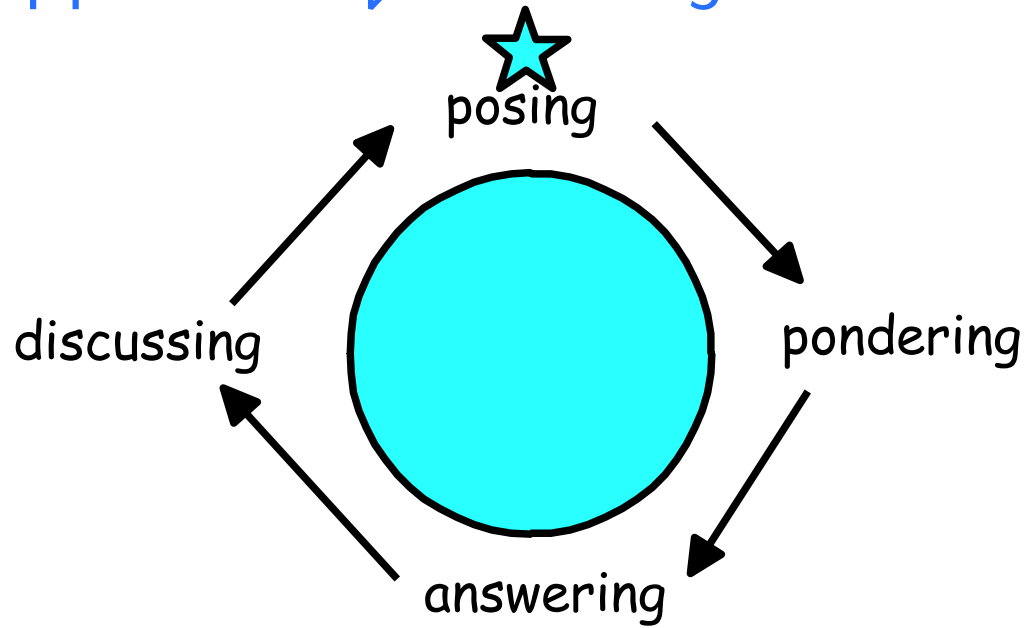
Level 5 Synthesis

What would happen if
How would you adapt
How would you estimate
the results
How would you test

Level 6 Evaluation

What would you
select
How would you
prioritize
Would it be
better if

1b. Start by writing questions that support a "question cycle".



1. Which era do you think Joshua Chamberlain played a roll in US History?

- a. Revolutionary War
- b. Civil War
- c. World War II
- d. The Cold War

2. Ask a question that requires more than one brain activity.

Instead of

What is the area of a rectangle whose length is 5 and width is 7?

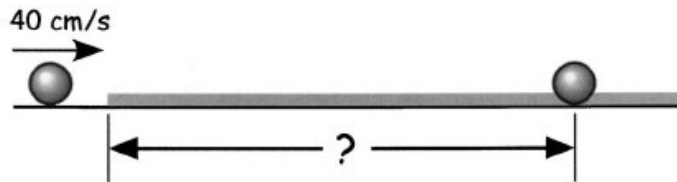
Try this

What is the area of a rectangle whose length is 5 and width is 2 more than the width?

3. Ask a question that allows the teacher or students to reveal a better answer.

Instead of

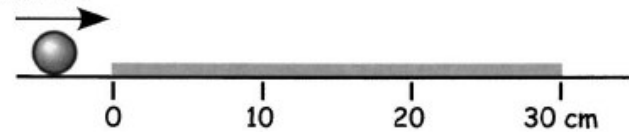
a) A marble moving at 40 cm/s rolls onto a horizontal piece of felt and stops after 1.25 seconds. Assuming constant acceleration, how far does it travel on the felt?



- 1) 25 cm
- 2) 42.3 cm
- 3) 50 cm
- 4) 75 cm
- 5) None of the above
- 6) Not enough information

Try this

b) A marble rolls onto a horizontal piece of felt that is 30 cm in length. After 20 cm, the marble's speed is half its initial value. Does the marble reach the far edge of the felt?



- 1) Yes.
- 2) No.
- 3) Not enough information.

Instead of

If Joshua Chamberlain had not valiantly defended Little Round Top during the Battle of Gettysburg, many historians agree that the North could have lost the Civil War. What do you think may have happened as a result?

- a. The Confederate States and The United States would have split into two separate countries.
- b. The United States as we know it today, would have evolved more into separate countries similar to Europe.

Try this

If Joshua Chamberlain had not valiantly defended Little Round Top during the Battle of Gettysburg, many historians agree that the North could have lost the Civil War.

Would the United States look differently today if the North had lost?

- a. Yes, significantly different
- b. Yes, slightly different
- b. No, the U.S. would look the same as it does today.

Greek Literature

Hero or not?