INQUIRY NOTEBOOK

Add to your Inquiry Notebook an explanation about your questions and how they came to be. Refer to your vocabulary list of thinking terms to incorporate the language of thinking into your notebook narrative. You may be surprised to discover the many qualities of your thinking when you call them by name.

For examples of question types, visit <http://www.pathwaysforinquiry.com>.

Questions Exploring Different Perspectives

Some questions also explicitly explore different perspectives to view the topic of study through the lens of a particular discipline, occupation, or role. For example, we might ask, “How does the jockey view a Thoroughbred’s racing performance?” “What is the point of view of the trainer?” Or view the topic through the lens of the farrier, “What kinds of racing plates will Ready Lady need to race on turf instead of dirt?” or a veterinarian, “What treatment options are there for Ready Lady’s knee injuries?”

Try on the lenses of a person who works in the natural sciences. What questions come to mind when you think about your topic from the perspective of the following?

- biologist
- engineer
- meteorologist
- oceanographer
- physicist
- botanist
- geologist
- microbiologist
- paleontologist
- veterinarian
- chemist
- marine biologist
- naturalist
- pharmacist
- ecologist
- mechanic
- nurse
- physician
- other natural scientist
Take a different perspective. Try viewing your topic from the points of view of the social sciences:

- accounting
- entrepreneur
- lawyer
- sociologist
- anthropologist
- geographer
- legislator
- social worker
- archeologist
- historian
- psychologist
- teacher
- economist
- judge
- political scientist
- others
Interesting questions about your topic may be found by taking the perspectives of the literary arts. What questions might be asked by the following?

• folklorist
• journalist
• literary critic
• nonfiction writer
• playwright
• poet
• novelist
• other literary artist
• storyteller

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What about perspectives from the *musical, visual, and performing arts*? What questions would be asked about your topic by the following?

- actor
- art historian
- craftsman
- magician
- print maker
- animator
- cartoonist
- dancer
- music critic
- sculptor
- architect
- composer
- dress designer
- painter
- singer
- art critic
- conductor
- graphics designer
- photographer
- soloist
Also consider the variety of life roles people experience. What questions do these roles suggest about your topic?

- sibling
- parent
- grandparent
- mentor
- friend
- child
- lover
- spouse
- team member
- patron/benefactor
- others, as appropriate to your topic
Questions From Question Stems

Look over this list of King’s question stems. Not all will fit your particular topic but one or two might be very helpful. Find those that you think have potential to enhance your inquiry and use them to formulate questions you might like to explore.

How is __________related to______________________________

What is a new example of__________________________________________

In your opinion, what is the best __________and why?

What are some possible solutions for the problem of

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Explain why__________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

What conclusions can you draw about

________________________________________________________

What is the difference between ________________and ________________

How are ______________________and ________________________similar?

How would you use___________________to ______________________?

What do you think would happen if

________________________________________________________

What are the strengths and weaknesses of

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________
Why is it important ________________________________________________________________

Do you agree or disagree with this statement: ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

What do I (you) still not understand about ____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

What is the main idea of ____________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

What if ________________________________________________________________

What is the meaning of ____________________________________________________________

Why is ________________________________________________________________important?

What conclusions can I draw about __________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

What is the best ________________________________________________________________and why?

Keep a record of what you have done to date in exploring your topic. Describe the ways of thinking that you are aware of using.

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