

Source: Karen Spear Ellinwood, PhD, JD, EdS, Director, Instructional Development Inspired by: Tofade T, Elsner J & Haines S T. Best Practice Strategies for Effective Use of Questions as a Teaching Tool. Am. J. Pharm. Educ. 77(7):155; 2013. Shraw G & Sperling Dennison R. Assessing Metacognitive Awareness. *Contemporary Educational Psychology* 19:460-475; 1994; Moll L C. L.S. Vygotsky & Education. Routledge:NY; 2013.

Identify Purpose	Knowledge Dimensio

Frame the question for the student:

 Situate the question in the relevant context. For example, indicate the setting, situation, or other relevant facts.

Educator Frame:

- Lay foundation. The purpose is to establish student's:
 - Knowledge base What can student do without assistance?
 - Appropriate level of challenge - What student can do with strategic guidance?
- Deep-dive. The purpose is to ask student to engage in higher-order thinking (e.g., in-depth analysis.)

The Target Knowledge

Dimension refers to the kind of thinking in which you want the student to engage. Once you know that, you can choose how to **phrase** your questions. Ask yourself, do you want the student to demonstrate:

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- Knowledge/Recall
- Comprehension
- Application of Knowledge
- Conceptual Knowledge
 - Metacognition or reflection
 - Analysis
 - Synthesis
 - Evaluation
- Conditional Knowledge (knowledge that depends on circumstances)
- Creative\Innovative thinking

Select Question Type

- Convergent Asks student to choose from among finite possibilities, such as single correct/best answer, yes/no.
- Divergent (Open-ended) Narrative response; requires application of knowledge, analysis or other higher order thinking.
- Complex\Compound [Question Circles] Answer depends upon critical analysis of multiple factors and relationship among these
- Conceptual Questions that ask students to explain concepts or articulate reasoning (Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation)
- Procedural Questions that ask students to explain how something functions, or to describe causal connections.
- Conditional Ask the student to predict what might happen under various conditions or circumstances (What if questions).
- Reflective\Metacognitive questions that promote reflection past, present or future action, process or self
- Question Posing Ask students to formulate questions or to lead the inquiry

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