



Questions to Guide the Selection of the Thinking Skills/Reasoning Process to Incorporate Into a Lesson

| Thinking Skills | Stimulus Questions |
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| 1. Comparing | How are _____ and _____ similar and different? |
| 2. Classifying | How might _____ be organized into groups? What are the rules or characteristics that have been used to form groups? |
| 3. Induction | What conclusions could be drawn from the data? |
| 4. Deduction | Are there specific rules operating? Are there things that must happen because of these rules? |
| 5. Error analysis | Are there errors in reasoning or in a process that can be described? |
| 6. Constructing support | Is there a position you want to defend on a particular issue? |
| 7. Abstracting | What is the relationship that exists in _____? What is the abstract pattern or theme that lies at the heart of the relationship? |
| 8. Analyzing perspectives | What are the different perspectives or points of view on an issue? |
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| Thinking Processes | Stimulus Questions |
| 9. Decision making | Is there an important decision that should be studied or made? |
| 10. Problem solving | Is there some obstacle that needs to be overcome? |
| 11. Experimental inquiry | Is there a prediction about _____ that can be made and then tested? |
| 12. Invention | Is there something you want to create or improve upon? |
| 13. Investigation: | |
| historical | Is there something that happened in the past that could be studied? |
| projective | Is there a possible or hypothetical event that could be examined? |
| definitional | Is there a new concept or theory that could be described in detail? |

The choice of Thinking Skill/Reasoning Process should reflect what you want students to be able to do to show they understand the content you've chosen for them to learn. For additional information visit the Educational Services' Thinking Skills web site at <http://edservices.aea7.k12.ia.us/lltc/framework/thinking/index.html>.

Source: Marzano, R., Pickering, D., & McTighe, J. (1993). *Assessing Student Outcomes: Performance Assessment Using the Dimensions of Learning Model*, ASCD.