



# The Question Generator

Develop 36 Types of Critical and Creative Thinking

## Analyzing

- How could you break down...?
- What are the parts of...?
- What qualities/characteristics...?

## Applying

- How is \_\_\_\_ an example of...?
- What practical applications...?
- What examples...?
- How could you use...?
- How does this apply to...?
- In your life, how would you apply...?

## Augmenting/Elaborating

- What ideas might you add to...?
- What more can you say about...?
- How could you improve...?

## Categorizing/Classifying/ Organizing

- How might you classify...?
- What category does \_\_\_\_ belong to? Why?
- What else could you add to this category?
- How else could you organize...?

## Comparing/Contrasting

- How would you compare...?
- What similarities...?
- What are the differences between...?
- How is \_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_?
- How is \_\_\_\_ different from \_\_\_\_?

## Connecting/Associating

- What do you already know about...?
- What connections can you make between...?
- What things do you think of when you think of...?

## Decision Making

- What are the pluses and minuses of choosing...?
- What would be a better decision...? Why?

## Defining

- How would you define...?
- In your own words, what is...?

## Describing/Summarizing

- How could you summarize...?
- If you were a reporter, how would you describe...?

## Determining Cause/Effect

- What are the causes of...?
- How does \_\_\_\_ effect \_\_\_\_?
- What impact might...?

## Drawing Conclusions/ Inferring Consequences

- What conclusions can you draw from...?
- What would happen if...?
- What would have happened if...?
- If you changed \_\_\_\_, what might happen?

## Eliminating

- What part of \_\_\_\_ might you eliminate?
- How could you get rid of...?

## Evaluating/Assessing

- What is your opinion about...?
- Why did you like or dislike...?
- How would you rate/grade...? Why?
- Would you prefer/rather...? Why?
- What is your favorite...? Why?
- Do you agree or disagree with...? Why?
- What are the positive and negative aspects of...?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of...?
- Is it better or worse...? Why?
- By what criteria would you assess...?

## Explaining

- How could you explain why...?
- What reasons might explain...?
- What are some alternative explanations for...?

## Experimenting

- How could you test...?
- What experiment could you do to...?

## Generalizing

- What general rule can...?
- What principle could you apply...?
- What is common to all...?

## Interpreting

- What does \_\_\_\_ mean to you?
- What is the significance of...?
- What role...?
- What is the moral of...?

## Inventing

- What could you invent to...?
- What machine could...?

## Investigating

- How could you find out more about...?
- If you wanted to know about...?

## Making Analogies/ Similes/Metaphors

- How is \_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_?
- What similarities do \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ share?
- What analogy/simile/metaphor can you invent for...?

## Observing

- What did you notice about...?
- What observations did you make about...?
- What changes...?

## Patterning

- What patterns can you find...?
- How would you describe the organization of...?
- If the pattern were to continue...?

## Planning

- What preparations would you...?
- How would you plan to...?

## Predicting/Hypothesizing

- What would you predict...?
- What is your theory about...?
- What are some possible explanations why...?
- If you were going to guess...?

## Prioritizing

- What is more important...?
- How might you prioritize...?
- In what order would you rank...?

## Problem Solving

- How would you approach the problem?
- What are some possible ways to solve...?

## Questioning

- What questions do you have about...?
- If you could ask a question of...?

## Reducing/Simplifying

- In a word/sentence, how would you describe...?
- How can you simplify...?

## Reflecting/Metacognition

- What were you thinking when...?
- How has your thinking changed on...?
- How could you describe what you thought about...?

## Relating

- How is \_\_\_\_ related to \_\_\_\_?
- What is the relationship between...?
- How does \_\_\_\_ depend on \_\_\_\_?

## Reversing/Inversing

- What is the opposite/antonym of...?

## Role-Taking/Empathizing

- If you were (someone/something else)...?
- How does \_\_\_\_ look like to \_\_\_\_?
- What would it feel like to be...?

## Sequencing

- How could you sequence...?
- What steps are involved in...?

## Substituting

- What else could you use for/instead of...?
- What is a synonym for...?
- What is another way you could...?

## Symbolizing

- How could you express it with a drawing/symbol/  
song/movement/poem?

## Synthesizing

- How could you combine/put together...?
- What could you make using...?