



Questions to Ask While Reading: Applying Bloom's Taxonomy to College Reading

Bloom's Taxonomy involves six levels of thinking, three lower levels and three higher levels. Using question starters for each of the six levels will help you learn as you read.

Level 1: Remembering – recalling information

Question Starters:

- What is.....?
- Who was it that...?
- What happened after....?

Level 2: Understand – demonstrate an understanding of facts, concepts, and ideas

Question Starters:

- Explain why...
- Outline the events leading up to....
- Clarify the.....
- What was the main idea of....?

Level 3: Apply – solve problems by applying knowledge, facts, techniques, and rules

Question Starters:

- Connect the ... to something else you've read or experienced.
- How are certain ... similar or different?
- What questions would you ask of...?
- What choices do ... have?

Level 4: Analyze – breaking information into parts to explore connections and relationships

Question Starters:

- If ... happened, what might the ending have been?
- How is ... similar to...?
- Distinguish between
- What was the turning point of...?
- What was the problem with...?
- Why did ... occur?

Level 5: Evaluate – justifying or defending a position or course of action

Question Starters:

- What is the value of...?
- Defend the position about ...
- Do you think ... is good or bad?
- What are the consequences of ...?

Level 6: Create – Generating new ideas, products, or ways of viewing things

Question Starters:

- What would happen if...?
- What is a possible solution to ...?
- What would have happened if ... occurred instead of?
- Invent a new ending

Adapted from LSUS: Student Development: Bloom's Question Starters