

Depth of Knowledge Question Stems

What is Depth of Knowledge?

Depth of Knowledge (DOK) is a scale used to determine the amount of thinking required for a given question or task. Aligning your questions to different DOK levels facilitates higher-order thinking and deeper learning for your students.

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DOK Level	Question Stems	Example Questions
Level 1 <i>Recall and recognition</i>	- Which of the following ____? - How would you describe ____? - Can you recall ____? - What is ____? - Can you identify ____? - What is the definition of ____? - When did ____? - What is the name of ____?	<i>What is the definition of figurative language?</i> <i>How would you describe a metamorphic rock?</i> <i>When did World War II occur?</i>
Level 2 <i>Using a skill or concept</i>	- How would you summarize ____? - What is an example of ____? - How would you use ____? - What examples/nonexamples can you find to ____? - How are ____ alike/different? - Explain why/how ____. - What is the main idea of ____? - What was the cause of ____? - Compare and contrast ____.	<i>What is the main idea of the first paragraph of the text?</i> <i>Explain how the data show a linear relationship.</i> <i>Compare and contrast the French Revolution and the American Revolution.</i>
Level 3 <i>Requires strategic thinking</i>	- What evidence supports ____? - How/why does the author ____? - Predict what would happen if ____. - What conclusions can you draw ____? - Analyze how ____. - Elaborate on ____. - How would you test ____? - Do you agree/disagree with ____? Explain.	<i>What evidence supports the author's claim use of social media lowers self-esteem?</i> <i>Predict what would happen if you double the temperature.</i> <i>Do you agree with the President's speech? Explain.</i>
Level 4 <i>Requires extended thinking and complex reasoning</i>	- What further information would support your idea about ____? - How would you evaluate ____? - Create a(n) ____ that ____. - Design a(n) ____ that would ____. - Assess the validity of ____. - Apply ____ and determine ____. - How would you prove/disprove ____? - Analyze the impact of ____.	<i>Analyze the impact of the incorporation of the Bill of Rights.</i> <i>Design an experiment that demonstrates how the addition of hydrochloric acid affects the rate of the reaction.</i>