

Socratic Questioning

<p>Using Evidence in Arguments</p> <p>When they give a rationale for their arguments, dig into that reasoning and challenge un-thought-through or weakly-understood supports for their arguments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What evidence do you have for this? • Is there reason to doubt this evidence? • How do you know this? • Can you support this with a reasoned argument? • Can you give me an example of that? • What religious quotes/teachings would support this? • Are these reasons good enough? • How might it be refuted? • On what authority are you basing your argument? 	<p>Challenging Assumptions</p> <p>Challenging their assumptions makes them think about the presuppositions and unquestioned beliefs on which they are founding their answer. This is shaking the bedrock and should get them really going!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this always the case? • What assumptions have you made here? • Do all _____ (e.g. Christians) think like this? • You seem to be assuming... ? • What religious beliefs might you be basing your argument on? • How can you verify or disprove that assumption? • What exceptions are there to this? • Please explain why/how ... ? 	<p>Clarifying Thinking</p> <p>Get them to think more about what exactly they are asking or thinking about. Prove the concepts behind their answer or argument. Use basic 'tell me more' questions that get them to go deeper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do you say that? • Could you explain further? • What do you mean by....? • How does this relate to what we have been talking about? • What do we already know about this? • Can you give me an example? • Are you saying ... or ... ? • Can you restate that, with a bit more clarity and precision? • How do you feel about this?
<p>Questioning the Question</p> <p>And you can also get reflexive about the whole thing, turning the question in on itself. Use their attack against themselves. Bounce the ball back into their court, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the point of asking that question? • Why is this question important? • Why do you think I asked this question? • Am I making sense? Why not? • What else might I ask? • What does that mean? • What other questions could I ask? 	<p>Considering the Consequences</p> <p>The argument that they give may have logical implications that can be forecast. Do these make sense? Are they desirable?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Then what would happen? • What would happen if everyone did/believed this? • What would happen if a _____ didn't do this? • What would happen if _____ happened? • What are the implications of ... ? • How does ... affect ... ? • How does ... fit with what we learned before? • Why is ... important? 	<p>Exploring Alternative Perspectives</p> <p>Most arguments are given from a particular position. So attack the position. Show that there are other, equally valid, viewpoints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How else could you answer this? • What is the counter-argument? • Who might see this differently? Why? • What religious quotes/teachings would challenge this view this? • Another view is.... does this seem reasonable? • How might a _____ answer this? • How could agape apply here? • What is the difference between... and....? • Why is this... better than ...? • What are the strengths and weaknesses of....?

Link: <https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/socratic-question-sheet-6290700>