

Questions for clarification:

→ MORE RELEVANT
DETAILS REQUIRED

- Why do you say that?
- How does this relate to our discussion?
- What do you mean by...?
- Can you give me an example/counterexample?
- Can you describe...?
- Can you illustrate that point?

Questions that probe assumptions:

→ NB TO BE AWARE
OF THEM & BE
CRITICAL OF THEM

- What assumptions are we making about...?
- What could we assume instead?
- How can you verify or disapprove that assumption?
- Why aren't we exploring other assumptions?

Questions that probe reasons and evidence:

- What are the reasons for your position?
- What would be an example of them?
- What is...analogous to?
- Why do you think "X" causes "Y" to happen?
- What kind of evidence do you have for your reasons?
- Does the evidence support the reasons?

Questions about Perspectives:

BROADENS POV

- What would be an alternative?
- What is another way to look at it?
- Would you explain why it is necessary or beneficial?
- Who benefits?
- Why is it the best?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of...?
- How are...and ...similar?
- What is a counterargument for...?
- Where did that insight come from?

Questions that probe consequences:

DEEPEN QUALITY OF CT.

- What generalizations can you make?
- What are the consequences of that assumption?
- What are you implying?
- How does...affect...?
- How does...tie in with what we learned before?
- How would our results be affected if we...?

→ IF YOU BELIEVE X
WHAT
FOLLOWS
FROM THAT

Questions about the question:

- What was the point of this question?
- Why do you think I asked this question?
- What does...mean?
- How does...apply to "best" practice?
- How is this question critical of "best" practice?
- Why do you think the question is important?
- Is there a better question to ask?

Adapted from <http://www.engin.umich.edu/~cre/probsolv/strategy/cthinking.htm> and criticalthinking.org.

USE FOR OPINIONATED ED / TALKS