

COSTA'S LEVELS OF QUESTIONING

Examples below of Costa's model of intellectual functioning at three levels. Level One questions focus on gathering and recalling information; Level two questions on making sense of gathered information; and Level Three questions, on applying and evaluating information.

Level One: Defining

Describing Identifying Listing Naming Observing Reciting Scanning

What is the definition of "lunar eclipse?" (Definition)

How can we express the equation $2x(4-5y) = 3y = 26$ in three ways (list)

Which states seceded from the Union to form the Confederacy? (Identification)

How does "The Road Not Taken" (Frost) begin? (Recitation)

Level Two: Analyzing

Comparing Contrasting Grouping Inferring Sequencing Synthesizing

In Native Son how does Bigger Thomas' violence against his gang members reveal a deeply rooted insecurity and fear of people? (Analysis)

In "The Bet" (Chekov), how do the lawyer and the banker differ in their attitudes toward capital punishment? (Contrast)

How does the term "manifest destiny" capture the essence of western expansion in the United States? (Syntheses)

If the moon is full Aug. 17, July 18, and June 19, when will it be full in April? (Inference)

Level Three: Applying a Principle

Evaluating Speculating Imagining Judging Predicting Hypothesizing

Using the principle of communicative property, how can we find out the number of apple trees in an orchard having 15 rows, 5 trees each? (Application)

Which of the characters in Great Expectations suffered the most? (Judgment)

In Catcher in the Rye, how might Phoebe, years later, describe Holden to her children? (Speculation)