

AVID Collaborative Study Groups – Student Handout (1 of 2)

Questions for Socratic Dialogue

Questions for Clarification

- What do you mean by...?
- What is your main point?
- How does _____ relate to _____?
- Could you put that another way?
- Could you give me an example?
- Could you explain that further?
- Why do you say that?

Questions That Probe Purpose

- What is the purpose of _____?
- How do the purposes of these two people/groups vary?
- What is the purpose of the main character in this story?
- How did the purpose of this character change during the story?
- Was this purpose justifiable?

Questions That Probe Assumptions

- What are you assuming?
 - What could we assume instead?
 - You seem to be assuming _____.
- Do I understand you correctly?
- All of your reasoning depends on the idea that _____.
- Why have you based your reasoning on _____, rather than _____?
- Is it always the case? Why do you think that the assumption holds here?

Questions That Probe Information, Reasons, Evidence, and Causes

- What would be an example?
- How do you know?
- What are your reasons for saying that?
- What other information do we need to know before we can address this question?
- Why do you think that is true?
- Could you explain your reasons to us?
- Do you have any evidence to support your assertion?
- How does that information apply to this?
- Is there reason to doubt that evidence?
- What would convince you otherwise?
- What accounts for _____?
- What do you think is the cause?
- How did this come about?
- By what reasoning did you come to that conclusion?
- How could we go about finding out whether that is true?