

EXAMPLES OF COSTA’S LEVELS OF QUESTIONS

Level One questions cause students to recall information. This level of question causes students to input the data into short-term memory, but if they don’t use it in some meaningful way, they may soon forget.

Level Two questions enable students to process information. They expect students to make sense of information they have gathered and retrieved from long- and short-term memory.

Level Three questions require students to go beyond the concepts or principles they have learned and to use these in novel or hypothetical situations.

TOPIC	Level One (complete, count, match, name, define, observe, recite, describe, list, identify, recall)	Level Two (analyze, categorize, explain, classify, compare, contrast, infer, organize, sequence)	Level Three (imagine, plan, evaluate, judge, predict, extrapolate, invent, speculate, generalize)
Science	What is a gene? What is a chromosome?	Compare and contrast genes and chromosomes.	Use what you know about genes and chromosomes to predict a trait in a child.
Spanish	Conjugate the Spanish verb “ser” in the present tense.	Elaborate on the similarities and differences of the preterite and past tenses in the Spanish language.	“Invent” a new Spanish regular “ar” ending verb. Use it in 6 sentences, using different tenses and persons.
Mathematics	Evaluate this expression: $3x^2$ if $x=4$.	When, if ever, can $x^2=2x$.	Prove whether or not the operation \boxtimes , is commutative, given that $a\boxtimes b=a^2-b$
History	Which amendment in the Constitution gives citizens the right to bear arms?	Compare and contrast societal conditions in the US that impacted the inclusion of the second amendment in the US Constitution with conditions today.	If there were a constitutional amendment that prohibited ownership of weapons by citizens, how might American society be affected?
English	In the book <u>The Giver</u> , what did Jonas’ mom do for a living?	Use examples from the book to elaborate on the theme of balancing freedom and security.	Speculate as to how your community would change if some of the societal controls embraced by the members of Jonas’ community in the book <u>The Giver</u> , were embraced within your community.

Duplicate the following 15 questions on card stock, cut into strips and place in envelopes for use by students in collaborative groups. Each envelope should have a complete set of 15 questions, students should be directed to sort the questions into 3 piles, classifying them according to Costa's Levels of Questions (level one, two, and three.) (Hint: there should be 5 questions of each type. Beware of math! Math questions that begin with "evaluate" are often not level three!)

1. Name the elements that make up water.
2. What will California's population be like in 2050 if we continue to grow as we have for the past ten years?
3. What is the definition of a trapezoid?
4. Imagine that you were in the character's position, how would you react?
5. Distinguish one candidate's platform from that of the other candidate.
6. Recite the Preamble to the Constitution.
7. What happened to the litmus paper when inserted in the liquid?

8. Create an invention that uses at least three types of simple machines.
9. Analyze the character's intentions in the scene.
10. Make a plan to complete your science fair project.
11. Evaluate the expression $(3x+5)^2$ if $x = -2$.
12. Applying the principles espoused in the Fifth Amendment, how would you decide the case of ...
13. Use four 4s and any math operational symbols to create expressions that equal the numbers 1-10.
14. Explain how involvement in war impacts the economy.

15. Arrange the following numbers in order from smallest to largest: ...

Write corresponding higher and lower level questions for each of the following.

TOPIC	Level One (complete, count, match, name, define, observe, recite, describe, list, identify, recall)	Level Two (analyze, categorize, explain, classify, compare, contrast, infer, organize, sequence)	Level Three (imagine, plan, evaluate, judge, predict, extrapolate, invent, speculate, generalize)
	Name the elements that make up water.		
	What is the definition of a trapezoid?		
	What happened to the litmus paper when inserted in the liquid?		
	Recite the Preamble to the Constitution.		
	Evaluate the expression $(3x+5)^2$ if $x = -2$.		
		Analyze the character's intentions in the scene.	
		Distinguish one candidate's platform from that of the other candidate.	
		Explain how involvement in war impacts the economy.	
		Arrange the following numbers in order from smallest to largest:	
		Use four 4s and math operational symbols to create expressions that equal the numbers 1-10.	
			What will California's population be like in 2050 if we continue to grow as we have for the past 10 years?
			Make a plan to complete your science fair project.
			Imagine that you were in the character's position, how would you react?
			Create an invention that uses at least three types of simple machines.
			Applying the principles espoused in the Fifth Amendment, how would you decide the case of:

Name(s) _____

Date: _____ Per: _____

Copy one or more of the questions from your strips (or from chart on the back) into the appropriate category below and write corresponding questions at higher and lower levels.

Or

From topics you are currently studying, develop questions at each of Costa's levels. You might want to use textbook or test questions or questions you or your classmates have used recently on tutorial worksheets.

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