

## The Socratic Seminar Questions

1. **Close-Ended Questions (questions about the *facts*):** Write a question that comes directly out of the text of the book and has one clear and "correct" answer.
2. **Open-Ended Questions (questions about *inference* and *opinion*):** Write an insightful question about the text that will require lots of inference to answer. This is a question that has no definite "correct" answer but is more about opinion, evidence, and proof.  
*Suggested Stem: What do you think about...?*  
*Suggested Stem: Why...?*
3. **Literary Analysis Questions (looking at *structure*):** Write a question about the author's style and the way in which the text was written. This is a question about how or why the text was written in the way that it was.  
*Suggested Stem: Why did the author...?*
4. **Connection Questions:** Write a question connecting the text to the world. You can do this in three ways: text-to-world, text-to-self, and text-to-text. Examples of these include asking questions that connect the text to modern society or current world events, asking questions that relate the text to us and our lives today, and asking questions that relate the text to another book, movie, or TV show.  
*Suggested Stem: How is [something from the text] like...?*
5. **Universal Theme Question (how does this text reflect the human experience?):** Write a question dealing with a theme of the text that will encourage a group discussion about the universality of the text. These questions go for the deeper meaning of the text and try to help us understand what the text has to say about how we should live our lives and what's real for us as human beings.  
*Suggested Stem: What does this piece have to say about... (love, war, power, etc.)?*