

## Socratic questioning – A philosophical approach to questioning that has stood the test of time

Type of Socratic question	Examples of questions
<b>Questions for clarification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What makes you say that?</li> <li>• How does this relate to our discussion?</li> <li>• What were your reasons for including that particular piece of information?</li> <li>• How have you arrived at this conclusion?</li> <li>• Why do you think this assumption holds?</li> <li>• What do you think will happen next?</li> </ul>
<b>Questions that probe assumptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What could we assume instead of this?</li> <li>• How have you come to this assumption?</li> <li>• What are your reasons for including this information and choosing to leave out other information?</li> <li>• What is the evidence you have for your assumption?</li> <li>• What makes you think you are right in this assumption?</li> </ul>
<b>Questions that probe reasons and evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What would be an example?</li> <li>• How can you apply this in other similar situations?</li> <li>• What do you think causes this to happen and why?</li> <li>• What are the corresponding arguments?</li> <li>• What is your justification for this answer?</li> <li>• How do you know you are right?</li> </ul>

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<b>Questions about viewpoints and Perspectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What would be another way of looking at that?</li> <li>• How else might you tackle the problem?</li> <li>• What makes this necessary</li> <li>• Who benefits most from this?</li> <li>• What are the strengths and weaknesses of...?</li> </ul>
<b>Questions that probe implications and consequences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What generalisations can you make?</li> <li>• What are the consequences of making that suggestion or assumption?</li> <li>• What are you implying here?</li> <li>• How does what happens in this situation affect the next steps?</li> <li>• How does this information link to what we already know?</li> </ul>
<b>Questions about the question</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was the point of asking this question?</li> <li>• Why do you think I need an answer to this question?</li> <li>• What does this mean to you?</li> <li>• What will answering this question achieve in helping you to understand more?</li> <li>• Why is it important to know the answer to this question?</li> </ul>