Question Formation Technique (QFT)
Performance Assessment Task #1: Team Project & Presentation
AP Seminar

Our ability to analyze arguments effectively and put them in conversation with each other is most likely the result of our ability to ask the "right" or "best" questions. The Question Formation Technique, designed by the Right Question Institute, is meant to help you better identify the questions that need to be asked and improve those questions in the process. Additionally, this technique is meant to "provoke and stimulate new lines of thinking" about the subject or text of focus.

Step 1: Review the Rules for Producing Questions

Rules for Producing Questions:
- Ask as many questions as you can
- Do not stop to discuss, judge or answer the questions
- Write down every question exactly as it is stated
- Change any statement into a question

Step 2: Produce Questions
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Step 3: Categorize Your Questions

In your list, you most likely have two types of questions: closed-ended
and open-ended.

- Closed-ended questions can be answered with "yes" or "no" or with one word.
- Open-ended questions require an explanation and cannot be answered with "yes" or "no" or with one word.
- Review your list of questions and identify closed-ended and open-ended questions. Mark the open-ended questions with an O and the closed-ended questions with a C.
- Go back to your list of questions; change the type of question, if necessary, to the other type to make any questions more analytical or more effective. For example, change a closed-ended question to an open-ended question.

Step 4: Prioritize Your Questions

- Choose the three to five most important questions (the number should correspond to the number of team members you have) from your list. Mark them with an "X", circle them, or highlight them.
- Answer the following questions:
    - What was your reason for selecting those questions? Essentially, why are they "most" important to your research?