

Questions

Open and Closed Questions

Closed-ended questions: This type of question has only one correct answer. It may be a short one word, such as 'yes' or 'no' or other factual information which may be quite detailed. For example, "Are you hungry?", "Where do you live?"

Open-ended questions: (Interpretive or evaluative) These types of questions have more than one right answer. They probe for a person's knowledge, opinions, or feelings.

- 1) **Interpretive** questions must be supported with evidence
Example: "What economic factors helped the North win the Civil War?"
- 2) **Evaluative** questions ask for opinion, belief, or point of view and have no wrong answers. "What superhero has the greatest powers?"

Use Sign Language as effective nonverbal communication cues. (videos of the signs)

- ▶ **Open** - Begin with both hands palms down and sides touching, move apart and end with palms facing up
- ▶ **Closed** - Begin with flat hands palms-facing, close to palms-down sides meeting

Resources:

4x4 Question Focus Technique, [QFT, Task Cards](#) - Gives specific steps for the questioning process

["Teaching Students to Ask Their Own Questions"-](#) QFT Technique by Dan Rothstein and Luz Santana

[RightQuestion.org](#) - The Right Question Institute, Includes multiple resources for educators, students, families, and others.

About: The Right Question Institute (RQI) is a nonprofit educational organization offering a simple, powerful strategy that builds people's skills to ask better questions, participate in decisions that affect them, advocate for themselves, and partner with service-providers.

Mission: RQI aims to make democracy work better by teaching a strategy that allows anyone, no matter their educational, income, or literacy level, to learn to ask better questions and participate more effectively in decisions that affect them.