

Life Principle: Perseverance

The Farmer and His Sons --Aesop

A Father, being on the point of death, wished to be sure that his sons would give the same devotion to the family estate as he himself had exhibited.

He called them to his bedside and said, “My sons, there is great treasure hid in one of my vineyards.” The sons, after his death, took their spades and mattocks and prudently dug over every portion of their land.

They found no hidden treasure, but the vines repaid their labor by an extraordinary and superabundant crop.

[Six Versions of "The Farmer and His Sons"](#)

Step 1: Question Focus: “PERSEVERANCE”

Question Formulation Technique Resource

Step 2: Produce Questions.

Rules for producing questions:

- 1. Ask as many questions as you can.**
- 2. Change any statements into questions.**
- 3. Write down every question exactly as stated.**
- 4. Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.**

Step 3: Improve the Questions.

- 1) Identify open and closed-ended questions.**
- 2) Change questions: select one question to change from open to closed-ended and one closed question to open-ended.**

Example: *Closed to open*

How did the sons show an attitude of perseverance?

What are some ways that a person may show perseverance in work and life?

