

Theme 1, Lesson 2 – Asking Questions

2019/09/22

Types of Questions: **The 5Ws plus H**

- Who?
- What?
- Where?
- When?
- Why?
- How?



Examples from Charlie's Question Bank

- **Who** would you vote for? (1)
- **What** is a critical thinker? (10)
- **Where...**? (0)
- **When...**? (0)
- **Why** would critical thinking expand my curiosity? (6)
- **How** can I learn about various types of government? (6)

Identifying the 5Ws plus H

- Sometimes the 5 Ws plus H are hidden
 - Is there another name for the Big Dipper?
 - As a What? question: What are other names for the Big Dipper?
- Sometimes the 5 Ws plus H are not specified
 - Visit a stream or creek where salmon run and see if you can identify some good or bad influences on it.
 - What are the good influences? What are the bad influences?
 - How do the bad influences affect the salmon?
- To answer the questions, we may need more information from the respondent.
 - Do you want to know what the good and bad influences might be, or how they influence the salmon?
 - Anya's example helps to answer the question "Where?" (Kanaka Creek Falls or Agassiz)
 - The good and bad influences may shift depending on "When" we look at the stream.

Why is asking questions important?

- The questions you ask (or fail to ask) will affect the answers you get.
- Asking questions improves communication.
- It improves your understanding of the world.
- Being clear about the questions is necessary to answer them.

Use the 5Ws plus H to check that you understand the question(s) to be answered.

Theme 2: The Governance of Social Groups

Charlie Reimer, October 7, 2019, Instructor: Bill Reimer

In this module we will consider what is necessary in order for groups of people such as families, tribes, ethnic groups, and societies to function and survive. In the process, we will look at ancient and modern societies, the ways in which they worked together (or not), how they related to other groups, and to their natural environment. While looking at more modern periods, we will look at various types of government.



Lesson 1: What is governance?

Governance refers to the ways in which a group of people come together to accomplish various objectives. In some cases, it may involve the creation of a government, but for many groups and objectives this is not the case. When looking at governance, some of the most important questions are the following.

- Who makes decisions?
- How do other members of the group influence those decisions?
- How are the decisions put into action?
- How does the group ensure that the decisions are properly followed?

For example, consider your family and how they make decisions about family holidays. Like all groups, each of the family members may have different opinions about what you would like to do and what other activities you have during the holiday time. This means that the final decision may be made with some of the people not getting their way. One of the biggest challenges of governance, therefore, is how to keep the group together even though many of the members may not get their way.

Think about the way your family usually makes decisions about family holidays and answer the following questions.

1. Who makes the final decision?
2. Do all family members have a chance to express their preference? How do they do so?
3. Do the preferences of other family members influence the final decision? If so, in what ways?
4. If the preferences of family members differ, how are those differing positions dealt with? For example, is Evie's preference as influential as yours, or JP's?

Just as families have different ways of making decisions, other groups have developed various ways to make "collective" decisions. These groups may range from small (e.g. your group of friends, basketball camps, churches, schools, tribes, and small cities like Fort Langley) to very large, such as BC, Canada, and even the United Nations.

In this theme we will examine the variety of approaches to governance that can be found in the world. Many of these approaches have developed over a long period of time so we will look at some of the ancient systems of government as well as some of the more modern ones. As we proceed, consider what your life would be like if you lived under those different systems.

Here are a few of the groups that we will consider along the way. Examples of each type can be found in the world today.

1. Extended families and tribes.
2. Small settlements and urban centres
3. Kingdoms
4. Countries
5. Empires
6. International alliances