

Subject Area Questions: Introduction

In this section, you will find questions that pertain to the four main subject areas: ELA, math, science, and social studies. These questions are broad and are meant to encourage exploration of each subject area as a whole. To answer them, students will need to draw on a great deal of knowledge and experience to make thoughtful connections. **You should feel free to modify the questions to fit your specific content or course.**

Consider using these questions at the beginning of the year or semester to spark student interest in a course. These questions would also work well toward the end of the year or semester as a “big picture” review. We encourage you to refer to the Introduction for a more specific listing of possible ways to use the questions provided here.

Finally, keep in mind that none of these questions is effective without the use of probing, follow-up questions that require students to explain their thinking and provide adequate and reasonable data to support it. Many times the question “Why?” is implied but not stated. You’ll find samples of useful probing questions in the Introduction as well.

