

MODULE 3 RESOURCE:
LIST OF TEMPLATES FOR DEVELOPING ITEM STEMS AND PROMPTS
Passport to Great Teaching: A Practical Guide to Assessment
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(Section titles with an asterisk () are more adaptable to higher level thinking.)*

Accuracy of interpretation*

Which is the best interpretation of
What (which) is the best interpretation for
Which interpretation of ___ is accurate
Which interpretation of ___ is most accurate based on
Which interpretation of ___ is least accurate based on

Application

What (which) is an application of
What (which) is an application for
What (which) is the application that
How is (are) ___ applied
How is (are) ___ applied to
When is ___ applied
Where is (are) ___ applied
Why is (are) ___ applied
Why is (are) ___ applied when
Why is (are) ___ applied to
Which application is appropriate for

Argument*

What (which) (is, was) an argument for
What (which) (is, was) the argument given for
What is (was) the proposal that
What (which) is the main argument
What (which) is the main flaw in the argument that
What (which) is the best argument for
Which offers the best argument for
Which statement could be used as an argument for
Which statement could be used as an argument against
What (which) would be the best argument for
What (which) would be the best argument against
What would be a better argument for
What would be a better argument to support the conclusion that
What (which) is the best argument in support of
What (which) is the best argument in opposition to
What was the strongest argument made

In relation to the rest of the information given, how adequate is the argument that
In relation to the conclusion, why is the argument made in adequate (or weak)
What (which) would be the most reasonable argument for
What (which) would be the most reasonable argument against
Which argument would have the most value for
Which argument would have the most value to
Which argument best justifies the decision to
Which argument best supports the decision to

Argument flaw*

What is a flaw in the argument that
What is a flaw in the argument for
Which statement best describes the flaw in the argument that
Which statement best describes the flaw in the argument for
Which statement best describes the flaw in the a position of _____ that

Argument – hole, flaw, gap in argument, or reasoning*

What is a hole in the argument that
What is a hole in the argument for
What is a hole in the argument of
What is a gap in the reasoning that
What is a gap in the reasoning for
What is a gap in the reasoning of
What is a flaw in the argument that
What is a flaw in the argument for
What is a flaw in the argument of

Category, classification, name, definition

What (which) is the correct category of
What (which) is the correct category for
What (which) is the correct classification of
Which is the correct classification for
What (which) would _____ be classified as
What (which) is (are)
Which term means
What (which) is the term for
What (which) is the name of
What (which) is the name for
Which is the correct order for
What (which) is the definition of
What (which) is the definition for

Causation; Consequences

What is (are) the result(s) of
What is the significance of
What is (are) the effect(s) of

What causes
What caused
What causes _____ to
What caused _____ to
What is (was) the result of
What would be the result if
What is (are) the consequence(s) of
What is (are) the consequence(s) when
What was (were) the consequence(s) when
What is (are) the reason(s) for
What was (were) the reason(s) for
What is (are) the reason(s) that
What was (were) the reason(s) that
What lead to
What should be done if
What should be done when
How would you use
Who did
Why did
What did _____ do when
How did

Character

What was (person) like
What was (thing) like
What was (character) like
What was the attitude of
Who is (are)
Who

Conclusion

What is a logical conclusion from
What (which) is a logical conclusion for
What would be the conclusion if
Which summary statement is correct

Conclusion*

What (which) is (was) the logical conclusion drawn
Why is the conclusion drawn by _____ logical
Which is the most logical conclusion
Which statement is the fairest conclusion
Which conclusion is the most sound
Which conclusion is the most reasonable
In relation to the rest of the information given, how adequate is the conclusion that
Which argument best justifies the conclusion that
What would be the most logical decision for

What (which) probably would have been the result if
Which result would be most likely if
Which statement is a non-biased conclusion

Constraints and barriers*

What constraints were used in the argument that
Which constraint makes the conclusion weak
Which constraints would have to be overcome in order to conclude that
Which constraints are most problematic to
What (which) is (are) the barrier(s) to overcoming the argument that
Which of the barriers presented most affects
Which of the barriers presented least affects

Correct and proper way

What (which) is the correct way
What (which) is the most effective way
What (which) is the correct way to
What (which) is the correct method for
What (which) is the proper use of
What (which) is the proper way to
What is (are) the way(s) that

Correctness/representativeness

Which statement is correct
Which idea is correct
Which statement/idea should be rejected
What though aligns with the idea that
Select the statement that represents
Select the statement that best represents
What is consistent with the statement that
Which best restates
Which statement represents the position of
Which statement best represents the position of
Which information is correct

Decisions*

What (which) decision should be made based on
Which decision is the best compromise for
Which decision would be the most reasonable for
Which decision would be the most fair to
Which decision best aligns with the logic that

Describe

What (which) describes
What (which) describes a
What (which) describes the

What (which) is the description for
What (which) is the description of
What (which) best describes
What (which) is the best description for
What (which) describes the way that
Which statement describes
Which statement best describes
Which is the statement that best describes
What (which) describes the effect of
Which description fits the
Which description is the best for
Which is an accurate description of
Which description is accurate for

Effects, will happen, did happen

What are the effects of
What are the effects when
What happens when
What happened when
What will happen when
What will happen if
What probably will happen when
What probably will happen if
What probably will happen next
What probably will happen next time
What probably will ____ do next
What probably will ____ do next time

Event

What was (event) like
Which event was important to
Which event was the most important
What (which) is (was) the event that
Which event indicated that

Example

What (which) is an example of
Which statement explains
What (which) explains why
Which statement explains what
What (which) explains how
What (which) best explains
What (which) best explains why
What (which) best explains what
What (which) best explains how
What shows that

What best shows that

Fact vs. Opinion*

Which statement is fact

Which statement is opinion

Which statement is fiction

Information needed and missing

What information is needed for

What information is missing

Which information is needed to explain why

Issue or question

What question is raised by

What question would be raised by

Which question was answered when

What (which) issue is (was) raised by

Which issue was closed when

Which issue was closed by

Justifying a point of view*

Which statement best justifies the point of view that

What is the justification for the point of view that

What would be the best justification for the point of view that

Which statement best justifies the point of view that

Which statement best justifies the point of view of

Which argument best justifies the position that

Which argument best justifies the conclusion that

Which statement is most representative of

Which statement offers the fairest judgment of

Which statement offers an unbiased judgment of

Which statement offers the most unbiased judgment of

Location

What (which) is the location of

What (which) is the correct location of

What (which) is the correct location for

What is the ____ located

Why is the ____ located

Where must the ____ be located so that

Where did

Logic*

What is a flaw in the logic of

Why is the logic used inadequate in relation to the argument that

Why is the logic used inadequate for supporting the idea that

What would be the most logical conclusion for the logic that

What would be the most logical result of
Which logic would be most reasonable to use for
Which logic would be most reasonable to support
Which logic would be most effective for
Which logic would be least effective for
Which line of reasoning would have the most value for

Meaning

What is the meaning of
What is the meaning for
Which meaning applies
Which meaning is most correct
What is meant by
What did _____ by

Modify, change

How could _____ be modified to
How would _____ be modified to
How could (change) be justified
How could _____ be changed so that
What changed when

Option*

Which is the best option
Which is the best option for

Organize, order

What is a flaw in the argument
What is the proper order for
In what category is (are)
In what category does (do)
Which is the correct category for
Which combination works best
Which design would be used to
Which design would be used for

Parts, elements, features

What is (are) the part(s) of
What is (are) the part(s) for
What are the principal elements of
What (which) are the elements of
What are the products that
What is (are) the feature(s) of
What is (are) the central feature(s)
What does _____ look like
What does (part) do

How does (part) fit with
How does (part) work with the whole
Which part is needed for
Which part is never needed for

Position*

What (which) is (was) the position of
What (which) is (was) the position taken by
What is (was) the position taken in
What (which) would be an opposing position
What (which) would be an opposing position for
What (which) best describes the position of
What (which) would be a reasonable position to take
What (which) would be the best recommendations for
What (which) would be the most appropriate position to take
What would be the most appropriate position for

Prediction

What would be changed if
What would happen if
What would ____ do if
What probably would be changed if
What probably would happen if
What probably would ____ do if
What could be a solution to the problem of
What could be a solution to the problem that

Preparation

What (would) is needed to prepare
What is needed to prepare for
How should ____ be prepared
What (which) is the best preparation for

Principle

Which principle applies to
What (which) is the principle of
What (which) is the principle of
What (which) is the principle that
What is (are) the principle(s) for

Problem, conflict

What (which) is (was) the main problem
What (which) is (was) the biggest problem
What (which) is (was) the problem when
What (which) is (was) the main problem when
What (which) is the problem that

What (which) was the main conflict
What (which) was the biggest conflict

Procedures, methods, rules

What (which) is (are) the procedure(s) for
What is (are) the appropriate procedure(s) for
What (which) is (are) the proper procedure(s) for
What is (are) the procedure(s) that is (are) used
What (which) is the most appropriate procedure for
What (which) is the appropriate method for
What (which) is the most appropriate method for
What (which) is the process for
What (which) is (are) technique(s) for
What (which) is the best procedure for
What (which) is (are) the rule(s) for
What is the main rule for
What is the most important rule for
What (which) procedure
What (which) method
What (which) rule

Purpose, main idea

What is (was) the purpose of
What is (was) the purpose for
What is (was) the main point
What is (was) the main point of
Which is the main idea that
What is (was) the main idea
What is (was) the best idea
What is the best idea for

Rationale*

Which rationale supports the decision that
Which rationale best supports the decision that
Which rationale supports the conclusion that
Which rationale best support the conclusion that
What rationale was used to support the decision to
What rationale was used to support the conclusion that

Rationale, reason

What is the reason that
What (which) is the reason for
What does ____ contribute to
What is essential for
Why did
What explains where

Which statement tells where
Which statement explains where
What explains when
Which statement explains when
What explains how
Which statement explains how
What explains why
Which statement explains why
What shows that
What is the reason for
What is the reason that
What gives a fuller explanation to
Which statement gives a fuller explanation of
Which statement gives a fuller explanation for
Which statement gives the best explanation of
Which statement gives the best explanation for
What (which) is the main reason that

Reaction, Response

What (which) was the reaction of
What (which) was the reaction for
What is (was) the reaction when
What was the reaction by _____ when
Which response show that
What was the response of
What was the response when

Recommendations*

Which is the best recommendation for achieving the goal of
Which is the best recommendation for countering the argument that
Which is the best recommendation for countering the logic that
Which is the best recommendation for countering the conclusion that

Relevance*

What is (was) the relevance of
What is (was) the relevance of the statement
Why is the statement _____ relevant
Why is the statement _____ not relevant
Why is the statement that _____ relevant to the argument that
Why is the statement that _____ not relevant to the argument that
Why is the statement that _____ relevant to the logic used
Why is the statement that _____ not relevant to the logic used

Recommendation*

What is recommended if
What is recommended when

Why is ____ recommended when
What is the recommendation for
What is the best recommendation for

Relationships

What differentiates ____ from
What distinguishes ____ from
What (which is the best comparison of
What (which) shows the contrast between
What is ____ like compared to
What is the relationship of ____ to
What (which) shows that
What (which) demonstrates that
What (which) shows how
What (which) demonstrates how
What (which) demonstrates the ability to
What (which) are basic features of
What is the significance of

Resolution, solution

How was the conflict of ____ resolved
How was the problem of ____ resolved
How was ____ resolved
What is (was) the solution to the problem of
What (which) would be a solution to
What (which) could be a solution to
What (which) would be the best solution to
What (which) would be the best solution for
How was the question of ____ resolved
How would a (the) question of ____ be solved
How could a (the) question of ____ be resolved
What would be an appropriate solution to
What would be the most appropriate solution to
What would be the most appropriate solution
Which solution would be the best

Separate

How would ____ be separated from
How could ____ be separated from
When could ____ be separated from
Why would ____ be separated from
Why should ____ be separated from
Why should ____ and ____ be separated
Why should ____ and ____ be separate
Why are ____ and ____ separate
Why are ____ and ____ always separated

Why should ____ and ____ never be separated

Sequence

What (which) should be done first when

What (which) should be done next

What (which) should be done last

What (which) is the ____ step to

When did

What (which) is the correct order of

What (which) is the correct order for

When did

What (which) happened first (second, etc.)

What (which) happened last

What (which) happened right after

What (which) happened just before

Strategy

What strategy was used to overcome the argument that

What (which) strategy was used to devalue the logic that

What strategy was used to devalue the conclusion that

What (which) obstacle has to be overcome in order to win the argument

What (which) is (are) the main obstacle(s) to overcoming the argument that

Supporting a position*

Which argument best supports the position that

Which argument best supports the conclusion that

What would be the best argument to support the position that

Value and merit of argument*

Which statement best describes the value of

Which statement is (was) most valuable to the logic of

Which statement was most valuable for the conclusion that

What is the value of the argument that

Which argument has (had) the most value for solving the problem of

Which argument has (had) the most merit for

Which argument has (had) the most value for supporting

Why is the statement that ____ not relevant to the conclusion (that)

What (which) statement is (was) most relevant to

What (which) statement is (was) most relevant to

Why is the statement that ____ relevant to the conclusion (that)