# Bloom’s Question Starters

### For Higher Order Thinking

**Bloom’s Question Starter List –** This list moves through 6 levels of questions. The first three levels are considered lower order questions; the final three levels are considered higher order. Higher order questions are what we use for Critical Thinking and Creative Problem Solving. I have written what each level of questions are about, given lists of key words that can be used to begin a question for that level, and I have listed Question Starters. You can use this chart to create questions that are specific to your novel.

**Level 1: Remember** – Recalling Information

* List of key words: Recognize, List, Describe, Retrieve, Name, Find, Match, Recall, Select, Label, Define, Tell
* List of Question Starters:
* What is...?
* Who was it that...?
* Can you name...?
* Describe what happened after...
* What happened after...?

**Level 2: Understand** – Demonstrate an understanding of facts, concepts and ideas

* List of key words: Compare, Contrast, Demonstrate, Describe, Interpret, Explain, Extend, Illustrate, Infer, Outline, Relate, Rephrase, Translate, Summarize, Show, Classify
* List of Question Starters:
* Can you explain why...?
* Can you write in your own words?
* Write a brief outline of...
* Can you clarify...?
* Who do you think?
* What was the main idea?

**Level 3: Apply** – Solve problems by applying knowledge, facts, techniques and rules in a unique way

* List of key words: Apply, Build, Choose, Construct, Demonstrate, Develop, Draw, Experiment with, Illustrate, Interview, Make use of, Model, Organize, Plan, Select, Solve, Utilize
* List of Question Starters:
* Do you know of another instance where...?
* Demonstrate how certain characters are similar or different?
* Illustrate how the belief systems and values of the characters are presented in the story.
* What questions would you ask of...?
* Can you illustrate...?
* What choice does ... (character) face?

**Level 4: Analyze** – Breaking information into parts to explore connections and relationships

* List of key words: Analyze, Categorize, Classify, Compare, Contrast, Discover, Divide, Examine, Group, Inspect, Sequence, Simplify, Make Distinctions, Relationships, Function, Assume, Conclusions
* List of Question Starters:
* Which events could not have happened?
* If ... happened, what might the ending have been?
* How is... similar to...?
* Can you distinguish between...?
* What was the turning point?
* What was the problem with...?
* Why did... changes occur?

**Level 5: Evaluate** – Justifying or defending a position or course of action

* List of key words: Award, Choose, Defend, Determine, Evaluate, Judge, Justify, Measure, Compare, Mark, Rate, Recommend, Select, Agree, Appraise, Prioritize, Support, Prove, Disprove. Assess, Influence, Value
* List of Question Starters:
* Judge the value of...
* Can you defend the character’s position about...?
* Do you think... is a good or bad thing?
* Do you believe...?
* What are the consequences...?
* Why did the character choose...?
* How can you determine the character’s motivation when...?

**Level 6: Create** – Generating new ideas, products or ways of viewing things

* List of key words: Design, Construct, Produce, Invent, Combine, Compile, Develop, Formulate, Imagine, Modify, Change, Improve, Elaborate, Plan, Propose, Solve
* List of Question Starters:
* What would happen if...?
* Can you see a possible solution to...?
* Do you agree with the actions?...with the outcomes?
* What is your opinion of...?
* What do you imagine would have been the outcome if... had made a different choice?
* Invent a new ending.
* What would you cite to defend the actions of...?

(Source: Pohl, Learning to Think, Thinking to Learn)