

Curriculum-Framing Questions Rubric

Use this rubric to create and revise Curriculum-Framing Questions.

4	3	2	1
Essential Question (EQ) generates critical thinking.			
The EQ is a thought-provoking, engaging question that crosses multiple curricular areas and/or multiple units in a single curricular area.	The EQ addresses a broad idea that crosses multiple curricular areas or multiple units in a single curricular area.	The EQ addresses an overall concept of a single curricular unit or project.	The EQ addresses a minor, fact-based question in a single unit or project.
Unit Questions (UQs) support learning goals.			
The UQs are open-ended, engaging, clearly aligned with objectives, and require students to use higher-order thinking to develop conceptual understanding related to a single unit or project.	The UQs are open-ended, aligned with objectives, and ask students to use some higher-order thinking to develop a basic understanding of a unit's main concepts.	The UQs are open-ended but relate to only a portion of a unit or project and/or are not clearly connected to objectives, higher-order thinking, or concepts specific to a unit.	The UQs have predetermined answers or are too broad for a unit to focus understanding.
Content Questions (CQs) address important factual knowledge.			
The CQs focus on key concepts to build factual knowledge in support of the Unit Questions. They have narrow and defined answers.	The CQs build factual knowledge, and have narrow and defined answers.	Some of the CQs address factual understanding, but one or more are either too broad or too insignificant to build understanding of the larger questions in the unit.	The CQs do not build factual understanding for the unit.
Curriculum-Framing Questions (CFQs) connect to each other.			
The CFQs require students to use information from CQs to thoroughly answer UQs and think critically and creatively about the EQ.	The CFQs ask students to use information from CQs to answer UQs and think critically about the EQ.	The CFQs sometimes ask students to use information from CQs to answer UQs or to think about the EQ.	The CFQs rarely ask students to use information from CQs or to answer UQs or think about the EQ.