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SRJC Libraries

# Question Formulation Technique (QFT)

Right Question Institute

Source: The Question Formulation Technique (QFT) was created by the Right Question Institute ([rightquestion.org](http://rightquestion.org)).



# QFT Goals

1

**PRODUCE**

your own questions

2

**IMPROVE**

your questions

3

**STRATEGIZE**

how to use  
your  
questions

4

**REFLECT**

on what you've  
learned



# Rules for Producing Questions

1

Ask as many questions as you can

2

Do not answer, judge, or discuss

3

Write down every question exactly as it was stated

4

Change any statements into questions



# What is the Question Focus?

Vote on the following

Open up Google Doc and paste link in Canvas

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eazjn87\\_\\_7jKmbTfTAESZ3\\_wbTW5ts\\_rD4EQhhsRD44/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eazjn87__7jKmbTfTAESZ3_wbTW5ts_rD4EQhhsRD44/edit?usp=sharing)



# Choose a Scientific Claim

**A**

**Type 2 Diabetes can be reversed by diet and exercise.**

**B**

**"Bird Flu" can spread from birds to humans.**

**C**

**Consuming less meat reduces greenhouse gas emissions.**



# Question Focus

**Type 2 Diabetes can be reversed by diet and exercise.**

**Please write this statement at the top of your paper**



# Question Focus

**"Bird Flu" can spread from birds to humans.**

**Please write this statement at the top of your paper**



# Question Focus

**Consuming less meat  
reduces greenhouse gas  
emissions.**

**Please write this statement at the top of your paper**



# Producing Questions


- 1 ASK QUESTIONS**
- 2 FOLLOW THE RULES**
- 3 NUMBER EACH QUESTION**

- 1** Ask as many questions as you can
- 2** Do not answer, judge, or discuss
- 3** Write down every question as it was stated
- 4** Change any statements into questions





# Closed/Open Questions



**Closed-ended questions** can be answered with a “yes” or “no” or with a one-word answer.

**Open-ended questions** require more explanation.

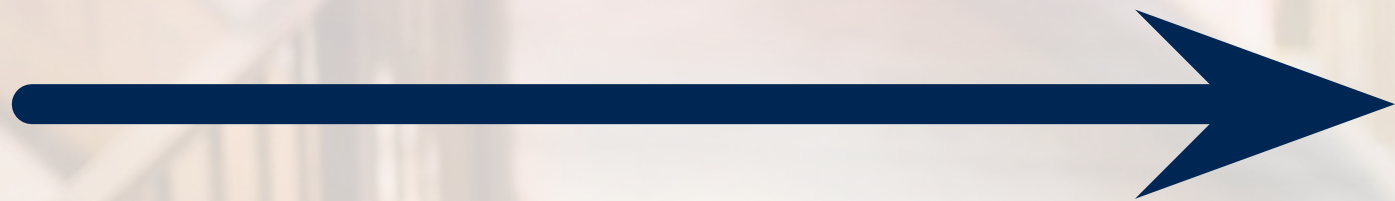
Identify your questions as closed-ended or open-ended by marking them with a “C” or an “O.”



# Closed-ended Questions

**Closed-ended questions** can be answered with a “yes” or “no” or with a one-word answer.

## Advantages





# Closed-ended Questions

**Closed-ended questions** can be answered with a “yes” or “no” or with a one-word answer.

## Disadvantages

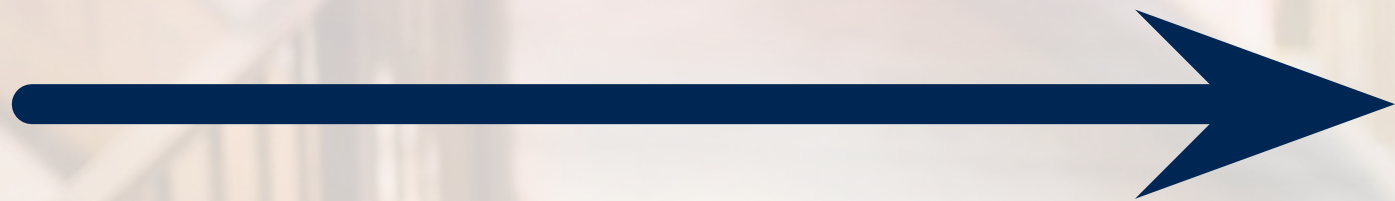




# Open-ended Questions

**Open-ended questions** require more explanation.

## **Advantages**





# Open-ended Questions

**Open-ended questions** require more explanation.

**Disadvantages**





# Improving Questions

Take one closed-ended question and change it into an open-ended question.

**Closed** → **Open**

Take one open-ended question and change it into a closed-ended question.

**Open** → **Closed**



# Prioritizing Questions

Choose the **3 questions** that will **help you the most** with your research.

- While prioritizing, think about our **Question Focus**

**Rational—**

- **Why did you choose those three questions?**
- **Take note of where your priority questions are in the sequence of your entire list of questions?**



# Action Plan

From priority questions to action plan...

In order to answer your priority questions:

- What do you need to know? **Information**
- What do you need to do? **Tasks**



# Share

1

Your three priority questions and their numbers

2

Rationale for choosing priority questions

3

Next steps from your action plan



# Reflection

What did you learn?

How can you use what you've learned?



# Resources for your Action Plan

[Biology 16 Research Guide](#)