

How to write an Inquiry Style Question:



What is an inquiry question?

- A questions that you can answer through doing your own research

While there are 3 different types of questions you can ask on any topic
NOT all questions are good inquiry questions.

Level 1 Question:

- *Easy to answer with a quick Google Search*
- *These questions start with the words “who?”, “where?” and “when?”*
- *Only need a few words to answer them*

Example: How many first nations tribes were living in the Ontario area in the 1800s?

Example: _____

We do **NOT** use these types of questions for an inquiry

Level 2 Questions:

- *Easy to answer with a quick Google search*
- *These questions start with “how?”, “what?” and “why?”*
- *Require more words to answer*

Example: What kinds of food did the first nations eat?

Example: _____

We **SOMETIMES** use these types of questions in an inquiry

Level 3 Questions:

- *Are harder to find the answer to and need you to look at a number of sources to find your answer.*
- *Ask you to come to your own understandings because you will not find the exact answer written strait out for you through your research.*
- *They might start with “what evidence....?”, “what can we infer?” and “if...then....”*

Example: What evidence do we have that the first nations were very knowledgeable in how to use all the resources that Canada had to offer and how did that knowledge help them survive through Canada's cold winters?

Example: _____

We **ALWAYS** can use level 3 questions in an inquiry

Remember to always be thinking about the answer to your question throughout your research. This will help you stay focused on your topic!

Some other great words to include in an inquiry question are:

- How do they compare?
- How are they similar?
- How are they different?
- How have things changed over time?
- How have they stayed the same?
- What impact does this have on...?