

15th Annual
Hawker Brownlow
**Thinking &
Learning**
Conference

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TAMRA STAMBAUGH

SUNDAY 20 MAY

Session 1

**Just Think About It: Teaching Critical
Thinking Processes Across
Content Domains**

MELBOURNE

DR TAMRA STAMBAUGH

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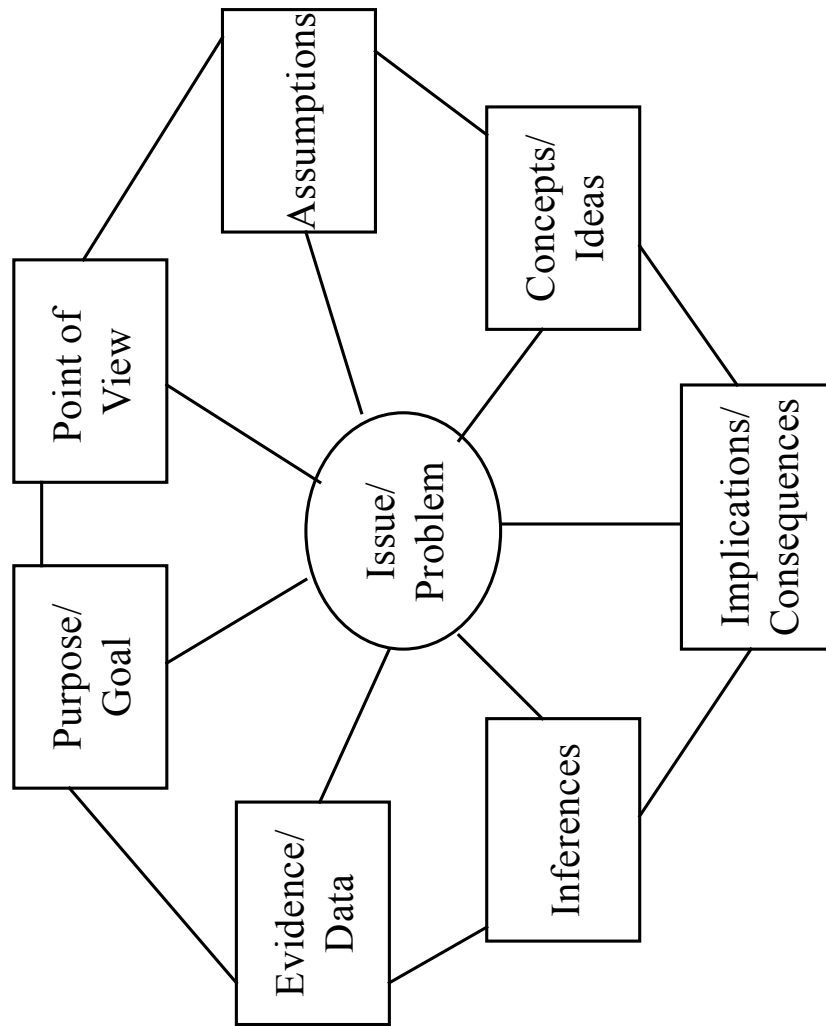
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- **Applying Thinking Models in the Classroom**
 - Questioning
 - student and teacher
 - Reasoning Through Issues and Problems
 - Reasoning Through Fiction and Nonfiction Texts
 - Student Writing and Research
- **Traits of Great Thinkers**
 - Raise important questions
 - Gather and assess relevant information
 - Test well-reasoned conclusions against relevant standards
 - Think open-mindedly, recognizing and assessing their assumptions, implications, and consequences
 - Communicate their ideas effectively
 - Figure out solutions to complex problems through a well-reasoned process
 - Consider other points of view/perspectives

- Paul and Elder, 2001

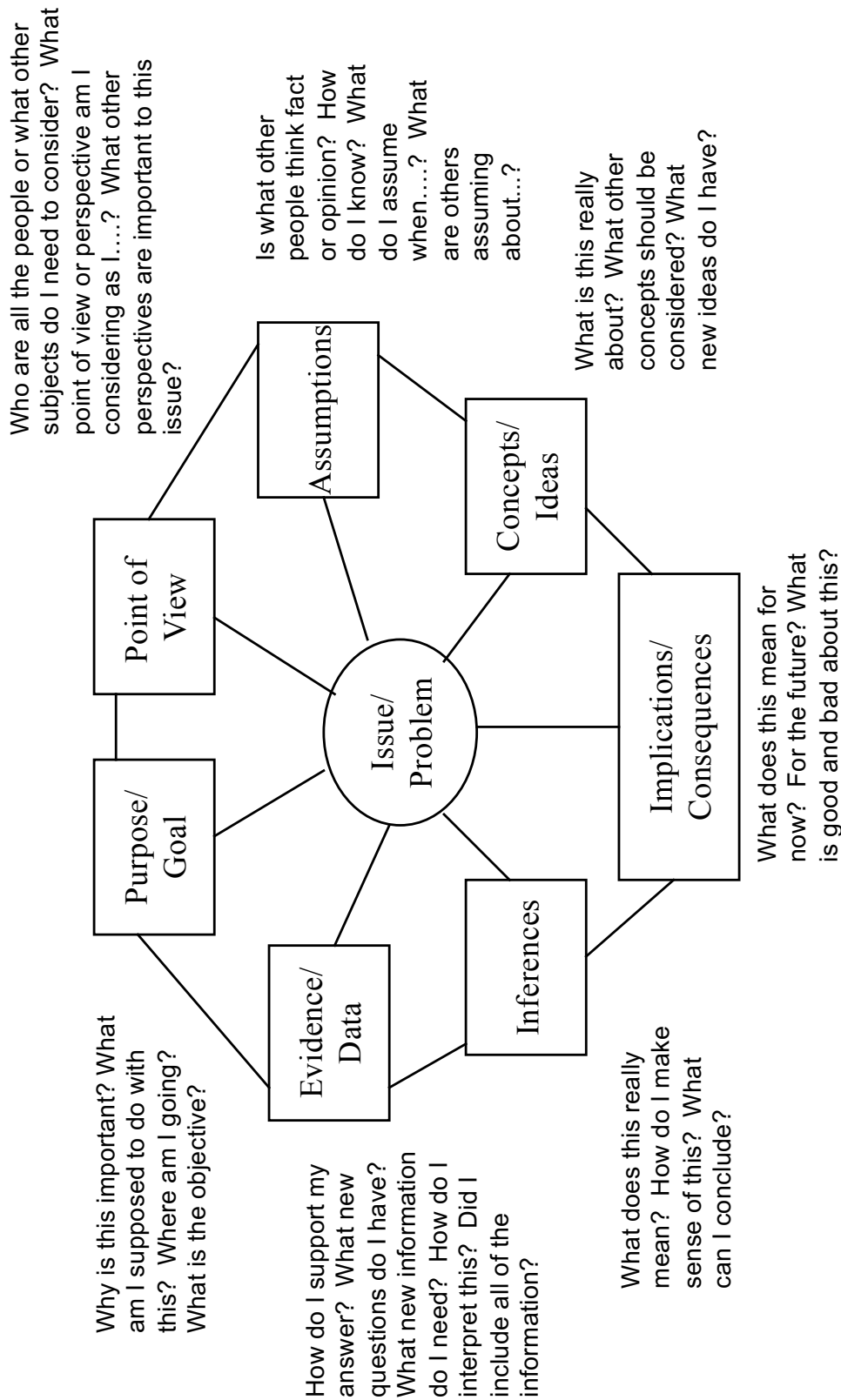
Elements of Reasoning



--Paul, 1992

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Elements of Reasoning



--Paul, 1992

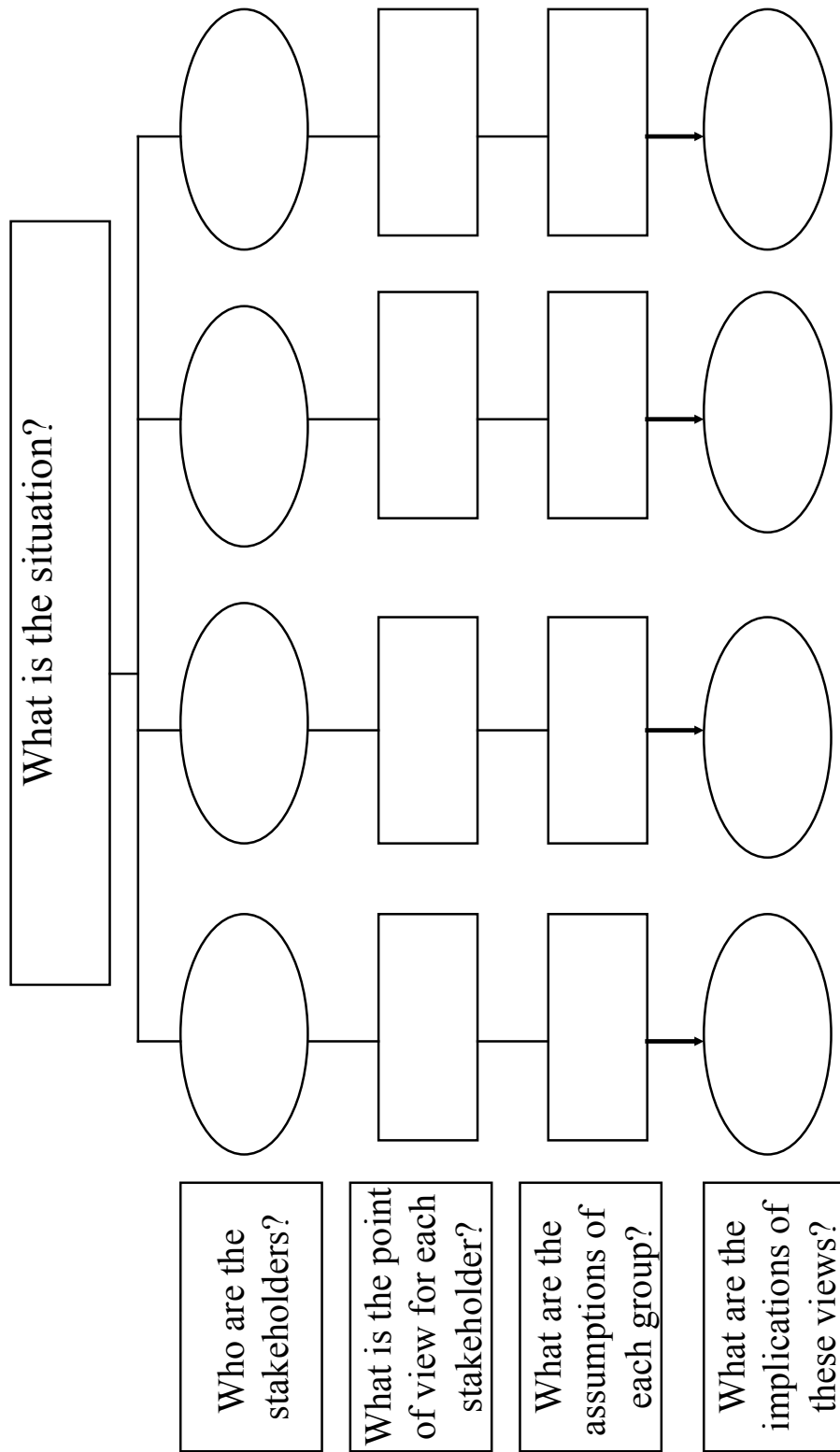
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 Questions adapted from <http://www.criticalthinking.org/ctmodel/logic-model1.htm#>

Questioning Stems That Promote Critical Thinking

- What assumptions can we make about...?
- What is x assuming about y?
- What are the assumptions associated with this perspective or point of view?
- How does this relate to the goal or purpose?
- What is the purpose or goal?
- What are the short/long term implications of...?
- What might the consequences of x be on y?
- What are the positive and negative implications of...?
- How is the concept of ____ illustrated...?
- What concepts do we need to consider?
- What additional perspectives or points of view need to be considered?
- What evidence do I have to support that....?
- What else do I need to know about...? (What information is missing?)
- What inferences can we make based on the evidence or data?
- What do these data mean?
- Why is this important to consider?

QUESTIONING STEMS Adapted from:
<http://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/richard-paul-anthology/1139>
Critical Thinking What Every Person Needs to Survive in a Rapidly Changing World

Reasoning about a Situation or Event



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Criteria for Selecting Issues

- Appropriately controversial
- Real world and relevant
- Matched to standards or the larger intent of standards
- Multiple and diverse perspectives
- Defensible
- **SHOULD or FORCED CHOICE** questions

Topic	Issue
Erosion	Should we stop natural erosion?
Zero	Is zero an odd or an even number?
Space	Should Australia fund space research?
A book plot or primary sources	To what extent do our experiences shape us versus us shaping our experiences?
Pollution	Should we encourage the development of nuclear power plants?
Spiders	Should we kill spiders in our house?
A book character	Is ____ a rebel or a hero?
Fractions	Are fractions ratios? Are ratios fractions?
Statistics	Can number lie?

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