

Question Formulation Technique (QFT) Plus

The Question Formulation Technique (QFT) was developed by the Right Question Institute (www.rightquestion.org) to help parents ask questions about their children at parent teacher nights. From their technique we created what we call the QFT Plus. This incorporates all the steps of the original QFT, but with some special steps to increase your learning and perspective. The QFT plus is a valuable tool to enhance your inquiry skills and grow your curiosity surrounding a particular concept.

Question Formulation Technique Plus

Step 1: Rules for asking questions

- Ask as many questions as you can
- Do not stop to discuss, judge or answer the questions
- Write down every question exactly as you think of it
- Change any statement into a question

Step 2: Identify your QFocus.

- This is what your question asking will focus on. It can be assigned to you or created to represent an assignment you were assigned.
- The only rule is this cannot be a question.

Step 3: Ask questions.

- You will have a prompt known as the Question Focus. Look at this and think about what questions you have.
- Don't forget to follow the rules and number your questions.

Step 4: Improve your questions.

- Go down you list of questions and label each with "C" for closed-ended or "O" for open-ended
- After, change every open-ended questions possible to closed and every closed-ended questions possible to open

Step 5: Identify stakeholders. Think of anyone who could have some sort of investment in your QFocus.

- This could be community member, first responders, politicians, etc. Repeat the question asking process (steps 1-3) as if you were some of these stakeholders. (OPTIONAL, depends on the QFocus)

Step 6: Identify the purpose of your questions.

- Find common themes and ideas that tie all your questions into your greater purpose.

Step 7: Strategize. Pick your questions that relate best to your purpose and decide how you will use them.

- Look at your list and choose your most important questions and put a star next to them

- Determine what you need to know and what you need to do to answer your questions

Step 8: Reflect on the process and what you were able to learn from it!