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Formulating Questions

Directions: You can increase your understanding of history by asking questions about what you see and read. Formulating, or drafting, questions is a critical-thinking process that helps you become a more effective learner. The better your questions, the more you will learn. To formulate questions, use the following steps.

1. Examine the material. Ask basic questions to help summarize what you are seeing or reading. Formulate questions that being with who, what, when, where, and how much.
2. Think of analytical questions. These are questions that reflect a thoughtful approach to the information. They might begin with how or why.
3. Ask questions that evaluate. These call for judgements and opinions based on evidence.
4. Formulate hypothetical questions. Hypothetical questions involve the word *if*. They suggest the possible outcomes, such as if this happens, would such and such occur.