<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Sample Stems</th>
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| Ask questions to make meaning of the most important facts or ideas you read or hear. | What seems to be the most important idea?  
What is confusing me?  
What don't I understand?  
How would I explain this in my own words? |
| Ask questions to connect content to what you already know.             | What comes to mind when I read (or hear) this?  
What do I already know about this?  
Does this contradict something I think I already know?  
In what ways does this add to or extend what I already know? |
| Ask questions to clarify and better understand the meaning of a topic or text | What did the author mean when she wrote _____?  
What do you mean when you say _____?  
Can you say this in another way?  
What example can you give?  
How would you summarize _____? |
| Ask questions to understand the relationship between two different things. | How is _____ similar to _____?  
How is _____ different from _____?  
What do _____ and _____ have in common?  
What may have contributed to _____?  
What resulted from _____? |
| Inquire about the importance or value of something.                    | What contributes to the significance of _____?  
How might we go about evaluating _____?  
What criteria (or standards) could we use to judge _____? |
| Express curiosity.                                                     | I wonder why _______.  
How might we _______?  
Have you ever thought about _______? |
| Challenge a traditional way of thinking about a topic.                 | What might be an alternative way of thinking?  
What if _____?  
What's another way of thinking about _____? |
| Test new ideas.                                                        | I am thinking _______. How do others react?  
Imagine _______. How might that play out?  
What if _______? |

**SOURCE:** Jackie Walsh, MiddleWeb (5/27/19)
https://www.middleweb.com/40383/