

Cornell Note Questioning

Directions: Follow these steps as you create questions for the left side of your notes.

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- Step 1:** Read the **essential question**/standard/objective at the top of the Cornell notes.
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- Step 2:** Review the **first chunk** of notes on the right side. A chunk is defined as a section of notes where the main ideas are all related.
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- Step 3:** Identify the **first main idea** of this first chunk (may be underlined from previous review and revision).
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- Step 4:** Write a **question** on the left side for the first main idea that can be answered by the details written on the right side.
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- Step 5:** Repeat this **process** until all the main ideas in each chunk of notes are incorporated into questions.
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- Step 6:** Reread your **questions**. Are there any lower-level questions? At times, lower-level questions are necessary to create context for more advanced material to come, but they shouldn't be the only level of questions in your notes.
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- Step 7:** Create **additional higher-level questions** that incorporate two of the lower-level questions.
- For example:
- **Lower-level question #1:** Who is the protagonist of the story?
 - **Lower-level question #2:** Who is the antagonist of the story?
 - **New higher-level question added to notes:** How does the protagonist compare/contrast to the antagonist?
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- Step 8:** Create **notes** on the right side to answer the new higher-level questions created from the lower-level questions.
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- Step 9:** Review your **questions/notes** to ensure the essential question/standard/ objective at the top of the Cornell notes is being addressed.
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- Step 10:** Review your **questions/notes** to study for tests/quizzes, write essays, prepare for discussion or to complete a project.
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