Open-Ended Questioning

Objective: Learn how to ask open-ended questions to encourage deeper thinking and better conversations.

# What Are Open-Ended Questions?

Open-ended questions are questions that cannot be answered with just “yes” or “no.”

They usually begin with words like:

• What  
• Why  
• How  
• Tell me about  
• Describe

These questions help people share more information, express opinions, and explain their thinking.

# Examples

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Closed-Ended Question | Open-Ended Question |
| Do you like pizza? | What do you like most about pizza? |
| Did you read the book? | What was your favorite part of the book? |
| Is math hard? | Why do you think math is challenging for some people? |

# Activity 1: Turn It Around!

Instructions: Rewrite each closed-ended question as an open-ended question.

1. Do you like school?

➤

2. Is your favorite color blue?

➤

3. Did you go to the park this weekend?

➤

4. Do you have a pet?

➤

# Activity 2: Ask Me Anything!

Instructions: Imagine you're interviewing a classmate. Write 3 open-ended questions you could ask to learn more about them.

1)

2)

3)

# Activity 3: Reflection

Why do you think open-ended questions are important in conversations?