

About this resource

Blank questions are based on a developmental model by Blank, Rose and Berlin (1978). The Blank language scheme helps to encourage the development of children's verbal reasoning and abstract language skills. The model is a means of breaking this complicated aspect of language into developmental steps. Blank questions can be for any and every situation!

Here is a summary of each of the four levels.

Level 1: Matching Perception – language related to the immediate environment – labelling,

Level 2: Selective Analysis of Perception. Still attending to objects in the immediate environment but focusing more selectively on aspects of the material e.g. shape, colour, differences

Level 3: Reordering Perception - consider the materials presented in a wider context. May involve sequencing, following a set of directions, making generalisations.

Level 4: Reasoning about Perception - Problem solving, predicting, justifying, explaining inferences, identifying causes

Level 2 Questions: Describing

Name:

My target is to understand level 2 questions listed below

Example questions for adult to ask

- 'who is...?'
- 'what doing'
- 'where is...'
- Describing words by 'colour, size, texture, shape; quantity', e.g. What in the story was yellow? What in the story was big and fluffy? How many books were in the story?
- Things that go together
- Describing the function of something (show me something you eat?).

Level 3 Questions: Re-telling

Name:

My target is to understand level 3 questions listed below

Example questions for adult to ask

- 'what happened'
- 'what will happen'
- 'when did X happen'
- predict what someone might be thinking or what they might say
- 'how does X feel'
- putting a sequence of pictures in order
- summarise an event
- give definitions 'what does X mean'
- following directions; ones that have got extra conditions (e.g. find the animals but not the dogs)

Level 4 Questions: Justifying

Name:

My target is to understand level 4 questions listed below

Example questions for adult to ask

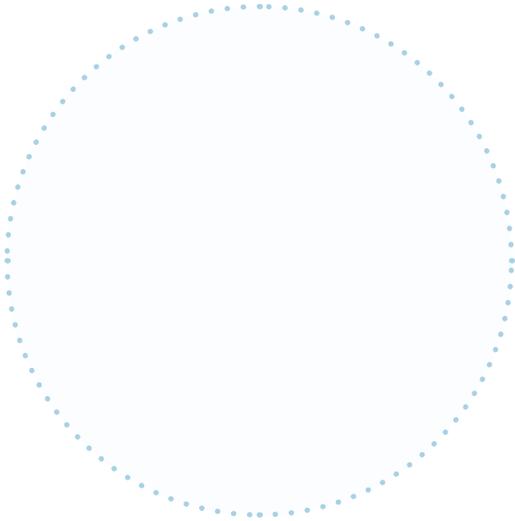
- solving a problem 'what should X do.../ 'why is it better to do X rather than Y'
- solve a problem from another person's point of view, e.g. 'what should X do'
- justify a decision 'why did X do that'
- identify the cause of an event 'why did that happen'
- Explain why something can't be done 'why can't you...'
- Make an inference 'do you think that...'

Identifying which level a child is on informs the type of questions that the child can answer. The bookmarks below are a useful tool.

Do not print this page. The resource starts on page 2.

Level 2 Questions: Describing

Name:

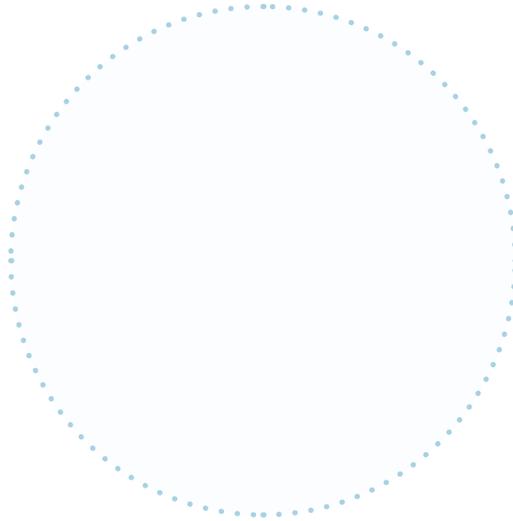


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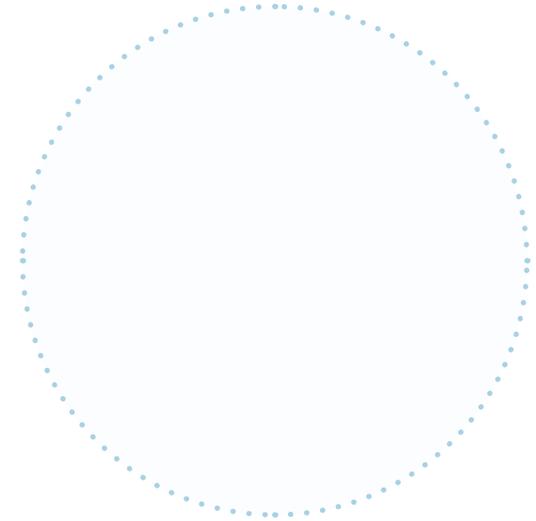


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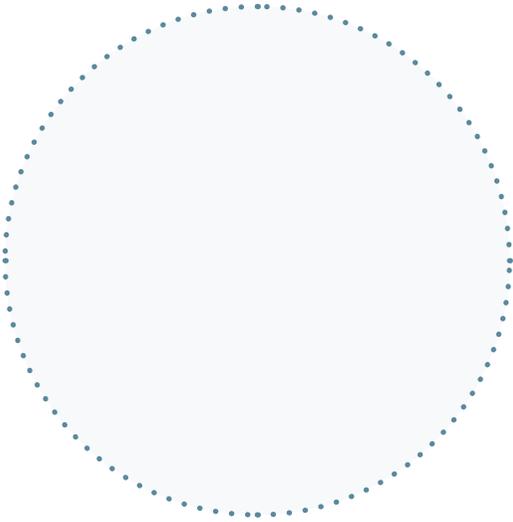


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Level 3 Questions: Re-telling

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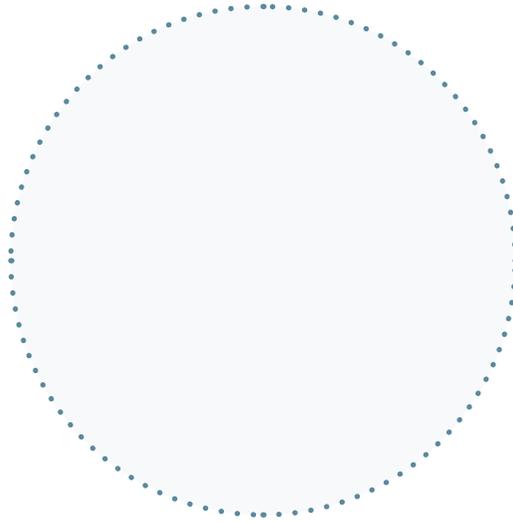


Example questions for adult to ask

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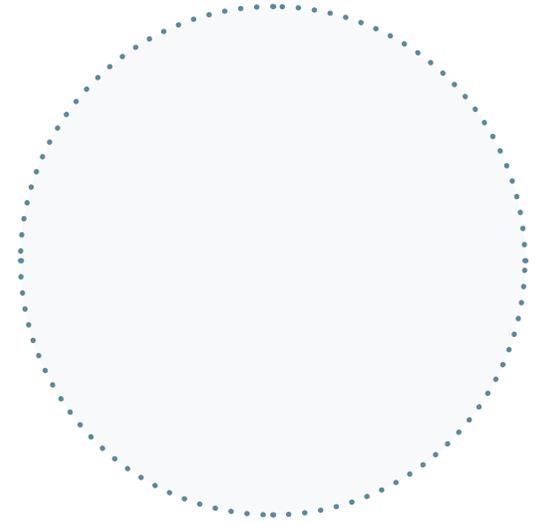


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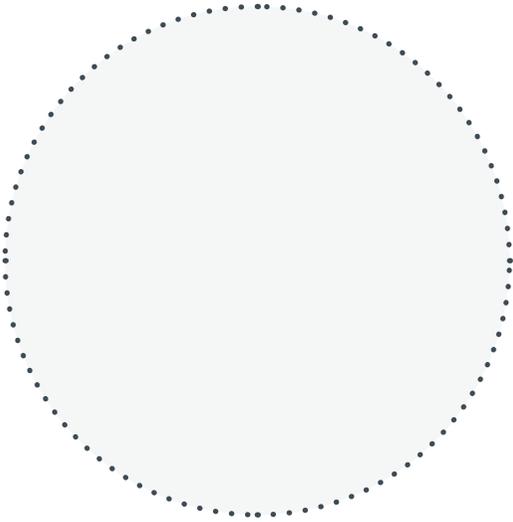


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Level 4 Questions: Justifying

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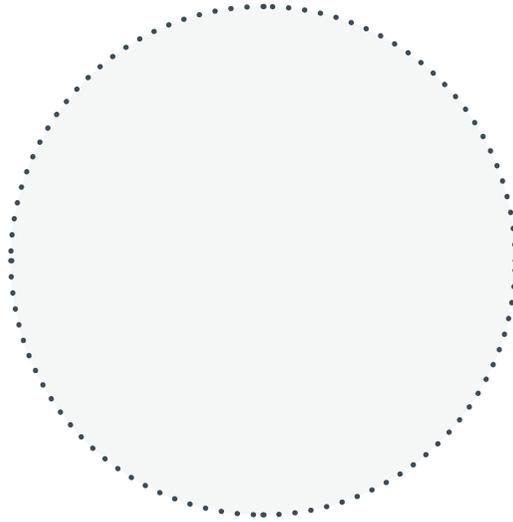


Example questions for adult to ask

- solving a problem 'what should X do..?'/ 'why is it better to do X rather than Y'
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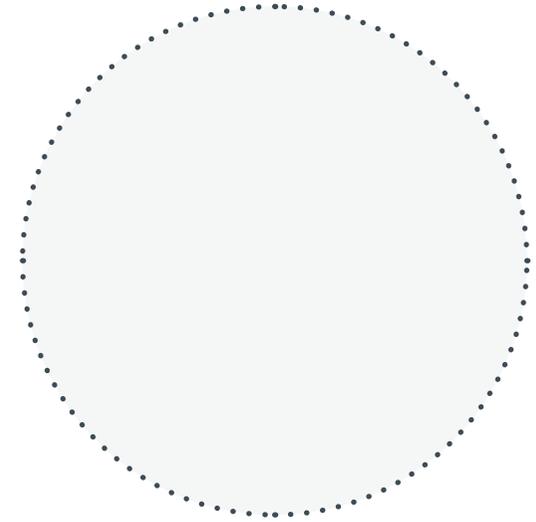


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