Level 3: Strategic Thinking & Reasoning

Tasks and classroom discourse falling into this category demand the use of planning, reasoning, and higher order thinking processes, such as analysis and evaluation, to solve real-world problems or explore questions with multiple possible outcomes. Stating one's reasoning and providing relevant supporting evidence are key markers of DOK 3 tasks. The expectation established for tasks at this level require an in-depth integration of conceptual knowledge and multiple skills to reach a solution or produce a final product. DOK 3 tasks and classroom discourse focus on in-depth understanding of one text, one data set, one investigation, or one key source, whereas DOK 4 tasks expand the breadth of the task using multiple texts or sources, or multiple concepts/disciplines to reach a solution or create a final product.

Verbs	Teacher Role	Student Role
Critique, appraise, revise for meaning, assess, investigate, cite evidence, test hypothesis, develop a logical argument, use concepts to solve non-routine problems, explain phenomena in terms of concepts, draw conclusions based on data	Questions to probe reasoning and underlying thinking, asks open-ended questions, acts as a resource and coach, provides criteria and examples for making judgments and supporting claims, encourages multiple approaches and solutions; determines when/where (text, concept) depth and exploration is most appropriate	Uncovers and selects relevant and credible supporting evidence for analyses, critiques, debates, claims and judgments; plans, initiates questions, disputes, argues, tests ideas/solutions, sustains inquiry into topics or deeper problems, applies to the real world

Possible Products

- Complex Graph
- Set up a database
- Conduct or critique a designed investigation
- Video cast or podcast
- Analyze survey results
- Debate from a given perspective
- Develop storyboard for film or cartoon animation
- Multi-paragraph essay or short story
- Literary critique
- Play, book, music, or movie review
- Informational report with several subtopics
- Fact-based argument (Is this criticism supported by the historical facts?)
- Create a Wiki or website

Potential Activities

- Analyze results of a questionnaire or survey (e.g., survey classmates/ industry members to find out what they think about a current issue)
- Prepare an informational report about an area of study
- Write a letter to the editor after evaluating a product
- Prepare for and participate in a debate
- Use evidence to generate criteria for making judgments
- Make a booklet or brochure about a topic, organization, or issue
- Participate on a panel to discuss differing viewpoints on...
- Prepare a speech to support your perspective about ...
- Explain and apply abstract terms and concepts to real-world situations

- Solve complex, non-routine problems that draw upon multiple skills, concepts, and processes
- Write an essay, short story, poem, or play
- Create complex graphs or databases where reasoning and approach to data organization is not obvious
- Design, conduct, or critique an investigation to answer a research question
- Propose an alternate solution to a problem studied

Potential Questions

What are the possible design flaws in ...? What is the theme/the lesson learned ...? How would the theme change if ...? What underlying bias is there ...? What inferences will these facts support ...? How does the author create tension/suspense...? What is the author's chain of reasoning or point of view for ...? What is the impact on the reader /viewer for use of this (rhetorical device, analogy, figurative language use, visual image, etc.)? What conclusions can you draw ... ? How can you prove that your solution or estimate is reasonable? What evidence can you find to support ... ? What ideas justify this position ... ?

ELA, History & Social Studies Alignment to Bloom's Taxonomy (sources: Hess ELA-SS and Writing CRMs)

Revised Bloom's Taxonomy	Webb's DOK Level 131 Strategic Thinking & Reasoning
REMEMBER Retrieve knowledge from long-term memory, recognize, recall, locate, identify	Not Applicable
UNDERSTAND Construct meaning, clarify, paraphrase, represent, translate, illustrate, give examples, classify, categorize, summarize, generalize, infer a logical conclusion, predict, compare/contrast, match like ideas, explain, construct models	 Explain, generalize, or connect ideas using supporting evidence (e.g., quote, example, text reference) Identify/make inferences about explicit or implicit themes Describe how word choice, point of view, or bias may affect the readers' interpretation of a text Write multi-paragraph composition for specific purpose, focus, voice, tone & audience
APPLY Carry out or use a procedure in a given situation, carry out (apply) to a familiar task, or use (apply) to an unfamiliar task	 Apply a concept in a new context Revise final draft for meaning or progression of ideas Apply internal consistency of text organization and structure to composing a full composition Apply word choice, point of view, style to impact readers'/viewers' interpretation of a text
ANALYZE Break into constituent parts, determine how parts relate, differentiate between relevant-irrelevant, distinguish, focus, select, organize, outline, find coherence, deconstruct (e.g.for bias or point of view)	 Analyze information within a text or source Analyze interrelationships among concepts, issues, problems Analyze or interpret author's craft (literary devices, viewpoint, or potential bias) to create or critique a text or to support text interpretations Use reasoning and evidence to generate criteria for making and supporting an argument of judgment (e.g., Was FDR a great president? Who was the greatest ball player?)
EVALUATE Make judgments based on criteria, check, detect inconsistencies, or fallacies, judge, critique	 Cite evidence and develop a logical argument for conjectures Describe, compare, and contrast solution methods Verify reasonableness of results Justify or critique conclusions drawn
CREATE Reorganize elements into new patterns/structures, generate, hypothesize, design, plan, produce	 Synthesize information within one source or text Develop a complex model for a given situation Develop an alternative solution

Math & Science Alignment to Bloom's Taxonomy (source: Hess Math-Science CRM)

Revised Bloom's Taxonomy	Webb's DOK Leve13I Strategic Thinking & Reasoning	
REMEMBER Retrieve knowledge from long-term memory, recognize, recall, locate, identify	Not Applicable	
UNDERSTAND Construct meaning, clarify, paraphrase, represent, translate, illustrate, give examples, classify, categorize, summarize, generalize, infer a logical conclusion, predict, compare/contrast, match like ideas, explain, construct models	 Use concepts to solve non-routine problems Explain, generalize, or connect ideas using supporting evidence Make and justify conjectures Explain thinking when more than one response/solution is possible Explain phenomena in terms of concepts 	
APPLY Carry out or use a procedure in a given situation, carry out (apply to a familiar task), or use (apply) to an unfamiliar task	 Design investigation for a specific purpose or research question Conduct a designed investigation Use concepts to solve non-routine problems Use and show reasoning, planning, and evidence Translate between problem & symbol notation when not a direct translation 	
ANALYZE Break into constituent parts, determine how parts relate, differentiate between relevant-irrelevant, distinguish, focus, select, organize, outline, find coherence, deconstruct	 Compare information within data sets or texts or across related data sets Analyze and draw conclusions from data, citing evidence Generalize a pattern Interpret data from complex graph Analyze similarities/differences between research procedures or solutions 	
EVALUATE Make judgments based on criteria, check, detect inconsistencies or fallacies, judge, critique	 Cite evidence and develop a logical argument for concepts or solutions Describe, compare, and contrast solution methods Verify reasonableness of results 	
CREATE Reorganize elements into new patterns/structures, generate, hypothesize, design, plan, construct, produce	 Synthesize information within one data set, source or text Formulate an original problem given a situation Develop a scientific/mathematical model for a complex situation 	