

Question Sets:

Introduction: Questions are important to reading and thinking in general, and provide an important study and scholarly tool. Particularly regards information/technology and society (our area of interest), the question plays a key and important role. Questions set the tone for any research paper and inquiry, and can also provide a strategy for writing a good paper. In journalism and any public arena – asking a good question can become a means of strategizing and opening up key discussion. Students would do well to activate their inquiry, their power and their area of study by learning to ask – (and from then on – always be asking) - good questions.

A good question is one that opens up inquiry into a subject and leads us into it, as investigators. A poor question generally does the opposite. A poor question will allow us a superficial encounter with the material, and sometimes leads to thinking we have encountered a material – when we have not. A good question will invite us into the material to analyze, respond to - and encounter it.

Task: You are to write questions for the reading (you have chosen or been assigned). You are to write 3 to 5 good questions. ¹

- a. First of all and most importantly, the questions are to be utilized to show your TA of your engagement, understanding of - and investment with the reading (and readings) – and our topic area information/society/technology.
- b. Secondly the questions will be used to assist our thinking about the readings and information/technology and society, particularly as these connect to the discussions in your tutorials connected to that reading. Thus the questions present as an opportunity to participate in the tutorial: Your questions are to contribute to creating the discussion around the readings - and keeping it going. They should be questions that are good for this purpose.
- c. Thirdly, the questions may be used in the short exam.

A question useful for all of the above would be an excellent question. A question useful for two of the above purposes would be a great question. A good question must at the very least satisfy criteria (a).

Strategize: Students will want to sit down with the article and generate several questions, and then go back and pick the questions they wish to submit for the assignment. If I were you – I would look up information on the web relevant to asking good questions. You may wish to try the questions out on fellow students before submitting them.

¹ You may write up to 10 questions.