NTNU
Department of Computer Science

We are writing a master thesis revolving around analyzing *open-text responses* from students during lectures. To do this we need to collect data from **real lectures**.

Introducing open-ended questions in lectures can make them more interesting and engaging for the students, as well as identifying potential mis-alignments between lecturer and students early on.

We hope you want to try it out! This guide informs you how to prepare questions.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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guidelines for
Effective Open-Text-Response Questioning
in large classrooms

Be specific, yet open-minded

Ask questions that are clear but leave room for varied responses.

Questions should make students think critically, rather than just recall information.

- What is the definition of X? (Recall)
- **How would you** apply concept X to solve Y?
- What **did you** struggle with during the task?

Use Comparative Questions

Ask students to compare concepts or methods as it encourages critical thinking

Questions should prompt open-ended responses, which are more valuable for analysis

- Did you understand todays topic?
- **What would you say** are the main differences between X and Y?
- What aspects of today's topic **did you find** most challenging, and why?

Time Your Questions Well

Ask reflective questions immediately after key segments

Questions should relate directly to, for instance, the current lecture or project to ensure the answers are relatable and engaging.

- What are **your thoughts** on the course so far?
- **In your own words**, explain how concept X could be improved.
- What ideas **have you** come up with for the project?

Preparations

✏️ Formulate a question	→	✔️ Confirm it is not multiple choice	→	💡 Confirm it prompts reflection or discussion	→	📚 Verify it is relevant for your lecture

During the lecture

👨‍🏫 Present the questions in your class with a tool like Mentimeter or Kahoot!	→	💬 Use the open-text answers for classroom discussion or future planning	→	📩 Send the text-responses to us