

## Question Advice, Examples, Ideas, and Concept Map - AS LEVEL

\*Question Starters/Topics & an example concept map at the Bottom\*

### What makes a good question?

#### AS Level-

- A good question is one that can be (at least somewhat) easily researched
  - If the question is one that is fairly new or doesn't have much research, it might be difficult to find **good** examples to fit your reasons
- A good AS question has two arguable sides (thesis and concession), and has at least two reasons for each side
  - The reasons should support the question, in other words, if you can't arrange your question to say either side supported by a reason, it doesn't match
  - For example, "Is it inhumane to domesticate animals?" On one hand, animals shouldn't be domesticated because there are ethical issues at stake and many animals are abandoned after growing up, on the other hand, animals provide companionship and can fulfil lifesaving duties that most humans cannot.
  - To check to see if my reasons support my question, the question can be rearranged to make a true statement, for example, "Animals should not be domesticated **because** many are abandoned after they grow out of the puppy stage."
- A good question is not generic or common, as these are boring to the graders and will not earn you any points for creativity, you'll be seen as doing the minimum
- The question needs to be global, by this, it means it needs to be relevant and a problem in other countries, not just MEDCs
- The question needs to begin with should, is, or are
- The question cannot use and/or
- Ask a peer for suggestions or advice on your question and reasons

#### Good AS Level Questions-

- **BAD**- Is food a human right or not? (**Can't use or**)
  - **GOOD**- Should food be a human right?
- **BAD**- Should we make college free and a right for all? (**Can't use and, pick one or combine**)
  - **GOOD**- Should higher education be free for everyone?
- **BAD**- Does standardized testing help today's students? (**Can't use does**)
  - **GOOD**- Are standardized tests effective?
- **BAD**- Should Petland be shut down? (**Not Global**)

- **GOOD**- Should animals be domesticated?
- **BAD**- Are phones bad for us? (**Boring and generic**)
  - **GOOD**- Is technology a necessity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?
- **GOOD**- Should vaccines be mandatory for all?
- **GOOD**- Is vegetarianism the answer?
- **GOOD**- Are flowers necessary in today's world?
- These are good because they are global, two-sided, have at least two reasons for each side, are easily researchable, and start off correctly (is, are, or should).

### Example Question Topics/Starters

#### Society-

- Have we grown too sensitive?
- Plus size models
- Body image
- Criminal Justice System
- Does money matter too much
- Aid programs/government assistance
- Party System
- Inequality
- Mental Health
- Injustice
- Social Stigma
- Racism/Sexism
- Oil Dredging
- Public Transportation
- The elderly
- Language
- Divorce/Right to children (Child always goes to mother)
- Taxes/Tax System
- Child Support
- War
- Religion
- Political Correctness
- Terrorists/Immigration
- Exotic Pets
- Universal Currency
- Electoral college, outdated?
- LGBTQ+

- Rights of Prisoners
- Rights of Sex Offenders
- Rape
- Juvenile Justice
- Consent (age, what's considered consent)
- Assisted Suicide
- Makeup and Unrealistic Expectations

### Health/Science-

- Transplant system fairness
- Medicaid
- Robotic surgeries/technology
- Plastic Surgery
- Opioids
- Antidepressants, Attention Drugs, Anxiety Meds=unfair advantage?
- E-Cigarettes/Smoking
- Drug overuse
- Mobile Doctors vs In person
- Artificial Intelligence
- Animal testing
- Overuse of antibiotics
- Marine Science
- Red Tide
- Coral Reefs
- Abortion
- Disabilities
- Obesity
- Genetic Engineering of babies
- GMOs
- Embryo Freezing
- Surrogacy
- Frozen Meals
- Vaccines
- Pulling the plug, brain dead
- Mental Disorders
- Transgenders
- Hormones (birth control, emergency contraceptives)
- Free contraceptives
- Are cancer treatments worth it?

- Pharmaceutical Industry, too much power?

### Technology-

- eBooks
- Robots
- Smart Homes
- Smartphones and Dependency
- Internet
- Virtual Reality
- Social Media
- Viruses
- Video Games
- Smart Cars
- Space
- Plastic
- Nuclear Warfare
- Attention Span Decrease, is technology to blame
- Internet a necessity
- Texting

### Entertainment-

- Online Gaming
- Web streaming Services
- Are online movies the future?
- Movie Theaters
- Concerts
- Media
- Animals and Entertainment
- Parental Restrictions
- Movie Ratings should be nonexistent
- Gambling
- Live vs. Virtual Entertainment
- Music
- Art (the future, still valuable, etc.)

### Sports-

- Olympics
- Paralympics

- Pay
- Cheerleading as a Sport
- Media/Broadcasting
- Price of Sporting Events
- Cost of Injuries (brain and physical)
- Lack of education
- Collegiate- money goes to sports not academics
- Advertisements
- Universal sports
- PE a requirement
- Steroids
- Pay for college athletes
- Online games considered sports
- Wage Gap
- Animal Sports (horseracing, dog racing)
- Hunting as a sport

#### Education-

- Standardized Testing
- Art in schools
- Creativity stifled at a young age
- Homework
- School Uniforms
- Special Ed/Disabilities in school
- Technology in school
- Tests as a measure of knowledge
- School Holidays
- Year-round school
- Mandatory to learn Spanish
- Free College
- Pay for teachers
- Just a number
- Teachers and Guns
- Pass/Fail vs. Letter Grade
- Free Speech
- Religion in schools
- Political Correctness
- Same-sex college

## Example of a Concept Map

