

## Question Advice, Examples, Ideas, and Concept Map – A LEVEL

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

### What makes a good question?

A Level-

- A good A-Level question is a lot different from that of an AS question, instead of having two sides of the argument, it should have 3 or 4 perspectives, similar to a paper 3 question
- The question should be more complex than an AS question, as a lot of research will need to go into it
- Similar to an AS question, it will need to be researchable and you will need to make sure there is enough out there on your topic to be able to write 5,000 words on it
- It needs to be interesting and unique, and it should be something you have interest in because if you can't engage yourself in it, how do you expect to engage others
- It needs to be well thought out, as you might want to show it off later to showcase your skills and abilities
  - Some A-Level papers have been used for scholarships, college apps, and even job applications. If the paper is done right, it could get you places, so think it out carefully.
- Form a question and perspectives and then ask a peer to look it over and give you advice

### What makes an A Level paper/question different from that of an AS paper?

An A Level paper combines skills from both paper 2 and paper 3. Like previously mentioned, an A Level paper doesn't have just 2 sides, it has **3 or 4 perspectives**. An A Level paper is also more power packed than an AS one, in the sense that more can be made from the question, compared to just scratching the surface of the argument in the AS papers. Usually, A Level papers are more creative and less structured than that of AS. A level doesn't really have a scaffolding; the examples, analysis, and evaluation come more naturally and flow more smoothly throughout the paper, unlike the set order of AS. In addition, more is expected from an A level paper, like current/excellent sources, well thought out analysis, source evaluations, relevant examples, and a good flow.

### Good Past A Level Questions-

- Do psychedelics enhance artistic ability?
- Is organ trading an ethical solution to transplant organ shortages?
- Do stereotypes perpetuate alternative gender identities?
- Is 21st Century society too sensitive?

- Is euthanasia an ethical solution to ending a terminally ill person's pain?
- Is the testing of unapproved pharmaceuticals on humans' ethical science?
- Is the psychological interpretation of dreams more or less valid than those interpreted from a religious base?
- Who is most to blame for the increasing use of thin models in the fashion industry?
  - Perspectives: Designers, Magazine Editors, Fashion Houses, Consumers

These are good questions because they are multi-sided, can be logically broken down into 3-4 respective sides, can be researched, are unique and sophisticated, and you could write 5,000 words on any of them if you had the interest for it.

### **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
- 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
- People 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

