

Important Questions to Ask

Clarity

- Could you elaborate further?
- Could you give me an example?
- Could you illustrate what you mean?

Accuracy

- How could we check on that?
- How could we find out if that's true?
- How could we verify or test that?

Precision

- Could you be more specific?
- Could you give me more details?
- Could you be more exact?

Relevance

- How does that relate to the problem?
- How does that bear on the question?
- How does that help us with the issue?

Depth

- What factors make this a difficult problem?
- What are some of the complexities of this question?
- What are some of the difficulties we need to deal with?

Breadth

- Do we need to look at this from another perspective?
- Do we need to consider another point of view?
- Do we need to look at this in other ways?

Logic

- Does all this make sense together?
- Does your first paragraph fit with your last?
- Does what you say flow from evidence?

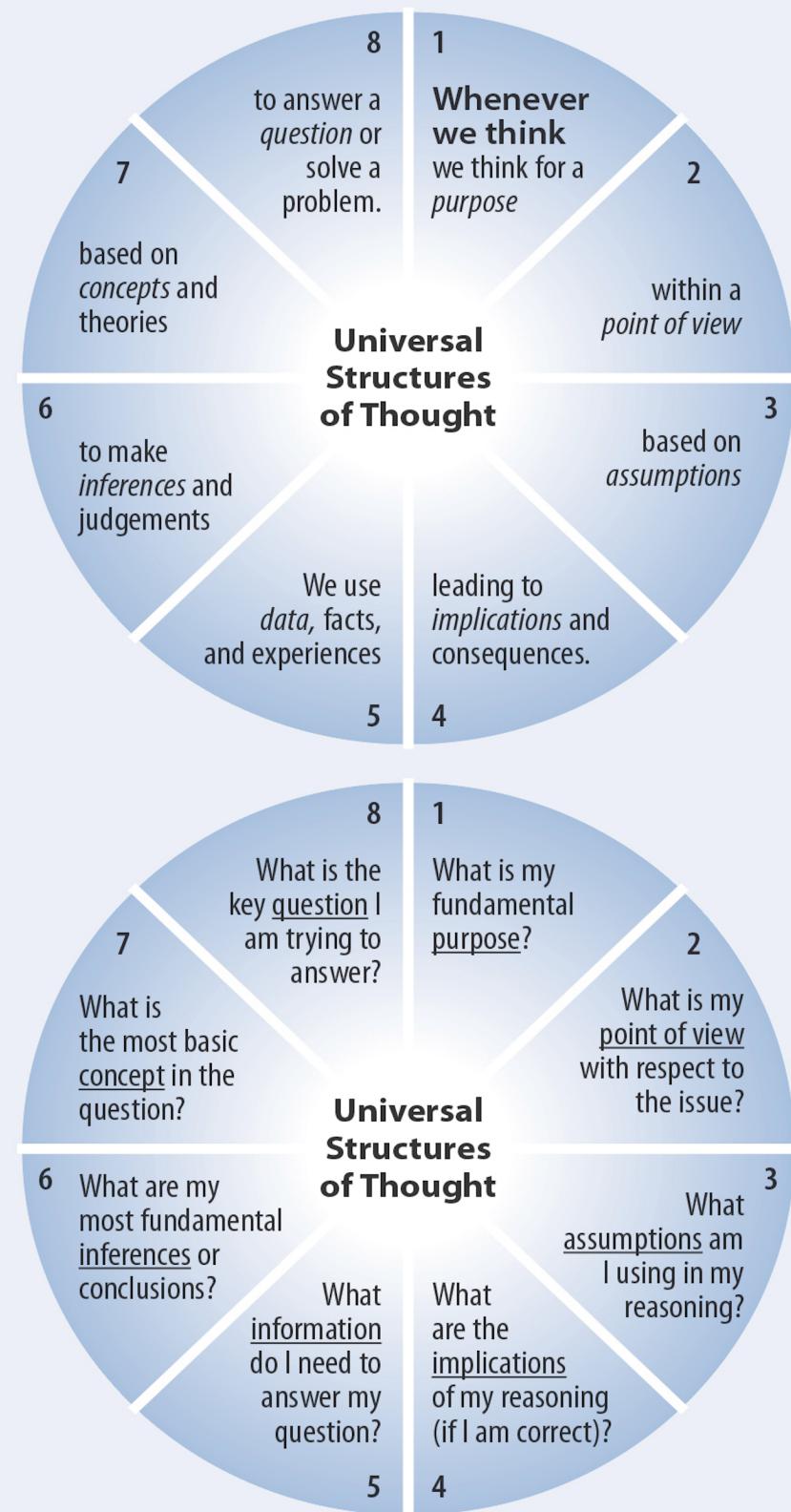
Significance

- Is this the most important problem to consider?
- Is this the central idea to focus on?
- Which of these facts are most important?

Fairness

- Do I have any vested interest in this issue?
- Am I sympathetically representing the viewpoints of others?

To Analyze Thinking We Must Learn to Identify and Question its Elemental Structures



Be aware: When we understand the structures of thought, we ask important questions implied by these structures.