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FIGURE 2.1A Informal Inventory of Student Question-Asking

Grades 6–12

Directions: Carefully read each of the questions below. Using the following scale for your answers, circle your response. Please answer as honestly as possible.

- 1 = I almost never do this.
- 2 = I do this occasionally.
- 3 = I do this fairly often.
- 4 = I almost always do this.

When thinking of your response, consider all of your classroom experiences over the past several years—in all subject areas with all teachers. This is not about your experience in this class only.


1. I ask questions publicly during whole-class instruction when I am confused about a concept or don't know where to begin solving a problem.	1	2	3	4
2. I ask questions of my teachers privately when I am confused about a concept or procedure.	1	2	3	4
3. I ask questions in class when I don't understand a teacher's directions.	1	2	3	4
4. When I am reading a text or listening to a teacher explain something in class, I ask questions to myself to better understand.	1	2	3	4
5. I ask and answer questions that help me self-assess, monitor my progress, and decide on what to do next in learning.	1	2	3	4
6. During class discussions, I ask my classmates questions when I disagree with them or don't understand why they think the way they do.	1	2	3	4
7. I ask questions when I am curious about something related to a subject I'm studying, when I just wonder about something.	1	2	3	4
8. After classes are over, I sometimes think of questions related to topics we are studying.	1	2	3	4
9. I ask questions of my parents and other family members when I am curious or want to know how to do something.	1	2	3	4
10. I ask questions of my friends (outside of school) when I am curious about why they think or behave as they do or when I want to know how to do something.	1	2	3	4


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FIGURE 2.1B Student Survey




Informal Inventory of Student Question-Asking, Grades K–3

Directions: Teacher reads aloud each item, pausing to allow students adequate time to mark their response forms.

If you agree with a statement, put an “x” in the box beneath 

If you disagree with a statement, put an “x” in the box beneath 

If you’re not sure about a statement, put an “x” in the box beneath 

	 I AGREE	 I DISAGREE	 I'M NOT SURE
1. I ask my teacher questions when I'm confused about what I'm learning.			
2. I ask my teacher questions when I don't understand the directions.			
3. I ask questions to myself when I am reading or trying to work a math problem.			
4. I ask my classmates questions when I don't understand something.			
5. I ask myself questions when I am self-assessing my progress.			
6. I ask my classmates questions when I disagree with them.			
7. I ask questions at home when I am curious or wonder about something.			
8. I ask my friends questions when we are not in school if I need to find out something or want to know what they think.			

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