Questioning Techniques---- A Self Evaluation

Do I pause before calling on a specific student?

Do I pause after a student gives a response to my question?

Do I call on a large number of students during the class period?

Do I field appropriate student questions back to the class?

Do I ask "Why" when students give an answer?

Do I allow students to complete their answer before jumping in?

Do I ask students to enhance their answer when it is not complete or if I do not know if they understood the concept?

Do I allow students to respond to other students' responses before I make a comment?

Do I avoid yes and no questions and one-answer questions?

Do I avoid asking questions similar to "Do you have any questions?"?

Do I avoid asking and then immediately answering questions myself?

Does my questioning give me meaningful input as to students' understanding of concepts being taught?

Do I allow students to think and organize ideas before asking them to respond in front of the entire class?

Do I create a classroom atmosphere that makes it safe for students to be wrong?

Are my students properly trained to act maturely when a student gives a wrong response?

Do I allow students to discuss ideas with their partners before asking a particular student to share ideas with the entire class?

Do I constantly walk around and monitor students' pencil and paper responses?

Do my questions help me significantly to know who knows and who doesn't know?

Do my questions help to learn the source of misunderstanding or clarify lack of understanding?

Excerpt from: MOTIVATION COUNTS, Johnson, David R., Dale Seymour Publications, 1994