Thin Questions vs. Thick Questions

**Thin Questions**
* Can be answered very easily
* Usually can be answered with one word
* There is not much discussion needed to answer a thin question
* The answer can be easily found—It is “Googleable”
* Answers are on the surface

**Examples of Thin Questions**
- When was the structure built?
- Who built the structure?
- What is the architectural style of the structure?
- How tall is the structure?
- Where is the structure located?

**Thick Questions**
* Harder to answer
* Needs evidence to help answer the question
* There might be many answers
* Answers have depth
* Need background knowledge to help answer the question
* Answers might be open-ended: “Non-Googleable”

**Question Starters for THICK Questions**
- What is the impact...
- What is the influence...
- What is the relationship...
- How has it changed over time...
- What would happen...
- What could happen...
- What is the result...
- How can you use...
- What is the cause...
- What is the effect...
- How can you change or modify...
- What could be done to improve...