

## Essential Questions Samples

### Sample Essential questions for biographical topics:

1. How did other people view your person and his or her accomplishments at the time? How do they view your person today?
2. How did your person view himself or herself and his or her accomplishments at the time?
3. How did your person's accomplishments "live" past him or her?
4. What decisions and events led to your person becoming eminent? How did this person get to where she or he is today?
5. How did your person's goals change at various times in his or her life?
6. What is the single greatest contribution your eminent person made?
7. In what ways was your person influenced or affected (positively or negatively) by others?
8. What price did your person pay for his or her fame?
9. How did your eminent person handle unpleasant events/obstacles in his or her life?
10. Do you think he or she would choose to do things differently if there was an opportunity to relive his or her life?
11. Did your person have a role model? Was your person a role model for others?
12. A question of your own. (\*Be sure to check with your teacher first.)

### Sample Essential questions for science topics:

- 1 - How do crystals form?
- 2 - (color/light) Why does white light go through a prism and come out the colors that it does?
- 3 - What causes lightning to form?
- 4 - What are the differences between acids and bases?
- 5 - How do sea otters survive in the wild?
- 6 - How can we help save water and prevent drought?
- 7 - How do optical illusions fool the eye?
- 8 - How do mammals survive the winter?
- 9 - How do nocturnal animals (particularly bats) maneuver at night? (echolocation)
- 10 - How does electromagnetism run motors?
- 11 - What is a comet? What kind of damage can it do to the Earth?
- 12 - Do ferrets make good pets?
- 13 - How do eels breathe underwater?
- 14 - How do pulleys, levers, and gears affect the way work machines work?
- 15 - Why do different types of volcanoes erupt?
- 16 - How do complex electrical circuits work?
- 17 - How does the heart pump blood throughout the body?
- 18 - How do manmade things hover?
- 19 - What conditions best create static electricity?
- 20 - How do bones get calcium and use it?
- 21 - How does the brain use information from the senses?
- 22 - How do black holes form and how do they behave?
- 23 - Which rodent is the easiest to train in a maze? (Animals used in research)
- 24 - How are bubbles made? What can we do with bubbles?
- 25 - How does photosynthesis make leaves change color?

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26 - How do tornadoes form?

27 - How do magnets work?