

## **COSTA'S LEVELS OF QUESTIONING**

### **LEVEL 1 (Lower-Order Thinking: Comprehension)**

The reader can find the answer to a question within the text. The reader can “put his finger on the answer” in one spot. These are right and wrong answers.

Define  
Describe  
Identify  
Complete  
List  
Name  
Recite  
Observe  
Select

### **LEVEL 2 (Inferencing/Making Text Connections)**

The reader infers answers from what the text states, possibly in several places.

Sort  
Distinguish  
Compare  
Contrast  
Synthesize  
Analyze  
Group  
Infer

### **LEVEL 3 (Higher-Order Thinking: Application)**

The reader thinks beyond what the text states based on prior experiences or knowledge. There is not necessarily a right or wrong answer, but some answers are better than others.

Apply  
Evaluate  
Hypothesize  
Imagine  
Judge  
If/Then  
Predict  
Speculate

SOURCE: Combs, N. (n.d.). Arthur Costa's levels. Retrieved from <https://www.sps186.org/downloads/basic/274780/Costa%20and%20Blooms.pdf>