

Teachers' reasons for asking questions

Encouraging thought, understanding of ideas, phenomena, procedures and values.	33%
Checking understanding, knowledge and skills.	30%
Gaining attention to task. To enable teacher to move towards teaching point in the hope of eliciting a specific and obscure point, as a warm-up activity for pupils.	28%
Review, revision, recall, reinforcement of recently learnt point, reminder of earlier procedures.	23%
Management, settling down, to stop calling out by pupils, to direct attention to teacher or text, to warn of precautions.	20%
Specifically to teach whole class through pupil answers.	10%
To give everyone a chance to answer.	10%
Ask bright pupils to encourage others.	4%
To draw in shyer pupils.	4%
Probe children's knowledge after critical answers, redirect question to pupils who asked or to other pupils.	3%
To allow expressions of feelings, views and empathy.	3%

Source: Wragg, E. C. (1993) *Explaining*. London: Routledge.