

Inquiry & Analysis – Higher Order Competency 1

Definition: The systematic process of exploring issues, objects, or works by collecting evidence, deconstructing that which is complex, and developing informed conclusions or judgments.

	Capstone 4	Milestone 3	Milestone 2	Benchmark 1
Explore Issues	Identifies and explores a creative and focused topic (issue, object, work) that addresses potentially significant yet previously less-explored aspects of the topic.	Identifies a focused and manageable/doable topic (issue, object, work) that appropriately addresses relevant aspects of the topic.	Identifies a topic (issue, object, work) that while manageable/doable, is too narrowly focused and leaves out relevant aspects of the topic.	Identifies a topic (issue, object, work) that is far too general and wide-ranging as to be manageable and doable.
Collects Evidence	Explores and synthesizes in-depth information from relevant sources representing various points of view/approaches.	Presents in-depth information from relevant sources representing various points of view/approaches.	Presents information from relevant sources representing limited points of view/approaches.	Presents information from irrelevant sources representing limited points of view/approaches.
Deconstruct the complex	Deconstructs and synthesizes evidence to reveal insightful patterns, differences, or similarities related to focus.	Organizes evidence to reveal insightful patterns, differences, or similarities related to focus.	Organizes evidence, but the organization is not effective in revealing important patterns, differences, or similarities.	Lists evidence, but it is not organized and/or is unrelated to focus.
Develop Conclusions/Judgments: Limitations and Implications	Insightfully discusses in detail relevant and supported limitations and implications of the topic.	Discusses relevant and supported limitations and implications of the topic.	Presents relevant and supported limitations and implications of the topic.	Presents limitations and implications of the topic, but they are possibly irrelevant and unsupported.