The questions open-ended and have the students Evaluating/Analyzing in order find the answer.

The questions are not necessarily answerable (no obvious or right answer) rather they promote student inquiry.

The questions drive at the heart of the discipline/content.

The questions recur throughout learning.

The questions are framed in such a way to sustain and provoke student interest.

The questions link to other essential questions as well as promote/raise additional student questioning.