

## CQ Entry: Envisioning

For successful synthesis to emerge, three associated levels of thinking must all occur at the same time in a dynamic, three component process which is a great deal like writing poetry or songs. All three levels operate concurrently and recursively (like the cat chasing its tail). The three levels of thinking are: Envisioning, Inventing, and Rearranging or (SCAMPERing).

### Envisioning

The top level involves conjuring and envisioning types of thought. The students conceive, conjecture, fancy, imagine, project and visualize. A student who has studied, for example, what it means to be human, is now ready to write a narrative describing what American culture and society might be like if it focused itself on the principles of being human that the student has experienced. Now that the student has a pack of details and facts bundled into a data base, it is time to translate them into scenarios which might help answer the question, "So what? Just how would it be to go to school? How might it feel? What would the criminal justice system be like. What would communities look like?"

Envisioning is the top level because it lifts the outcomes of the research beyond past practice, antiquated mind-sets, set recipes and old thinking. The researcher leaps out of the box of everyday, ho-hum thinking.

The student is encouraged to make such a flight of fancy. Envisioning is the source of originality. Identifying possibilities and exploring the unthinkable is basic to this level. **On the Left Side Page List:**

Practice envisioning by creating a vision of a world where your question and it's various possible answers are actualized. Make lists of your main question and subsidiary questions necessary to answer in order to complete your Essential Question. Then, outline or list potential answers or areas for further study. Follow that by listing ideas of what the world would it be like? What would happen if...? What kinds of things would change? What kinds of things would not? **Then: On the Right Side Page Write:**

A narrative journey taking the reader on a tour of a world in which your ideas about your topic, your possibilities, have been actualized. HOW CAN YOU PUT YOUR ESSENTIAL QUESTION INTO THE WORLD AND HAVE IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

## A Hypothetical Example (A Response Might Start Something Like This)

My CQ question asks, "What are the causes of stress in our lives that cause us to be so unhappy?" I can't help thinking, what would a society be like that is designed to minimize stress in the lives of its citizens?

First, I see a society where the basic needs of people are guaranteed. Reflecting on Maslow's stages that we studied for Mr. Byrne, every person should have their physiological and safety needs met. There would have to be significant changes in the attitudes of people about wealth and also about the role of government in our lives.

No person in America should be homeless, on the streets, even if they are mentally ill. Society must become caring enough to provide the help these people need. Neither should anyone ever go to bed hungry in this country. If they are living in a home environment where adults are irresponsible and not caring for children, then those children must have a place to go to be cared for....

(It might continue)

How do you create a society that encourages unconditional love and belonging? First people might have to be educated in how to raise children. Currently, you need a license to drive, and have to take courses, but not to be a parent. Change must start with the way we treat our children and one another. Tolerance must be the rule in such a society as well as inclusiveness.....

**Now it is your turn. Create a vision for your CQ question and elaborate on it.**