Thinking Star

**Aims**, Purposes, Goals, Intent, Seeks, Results, Ends, Ambitions, Aspirations, etc.

**Issue**, Problem, Question, Topic, Challenge, Crisis, Dilemma, Dispute, Quandary, Matter, Concern, Difficulty, Predicament, etc.

**Data**, Evidence, Facts, Documents, Statistics, Records, Experience, Verification, Substantiation, Confirmation, Corroboration, Observations, etc.

**Systems**, Theorems, Laws, Philosophy, Models, Principles, Schemes, Definitions, Premises, Hypotheses, Ideas, etc.

**Assumptions**, Givens, Beliefs, Presumes, Takes for granted, Presuppositions, Conjectures, Basis, etc.

**Repercussions**, Implications, Allegations, Predictions, Consequences, Effects, Connections, Insinuations, Favors, Supports, etc.

**Expectation**, Interpretation, Conclusions, Extrapolates, Suggests, Recommends, Infers, Calls for, Brings about, Exposes, Depends, Construes, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS:
To analyze assigned readings: Ask “who, what, why, when, how” questions for each point on the star. E.g. “What is the author’s aim or purpose?”, or “What is the main issue?”, or “What data or evidence is given?”, or “How systems or theories are applied?”.

Work your way around the star answering your own questions, and you’ll be pleasantly surprised how much more you understand about your assigned reading!

To help you remember the Thinking Star process, use the mnemonic **A.I.D.S.A.V.E.R.**: **A**=Aims, **I**=Issue, **D**=Data, **S**=Systems, **A**=Assumptions, **V**=Viewpoint, **E**=Expectation, **R**=Repercussions

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