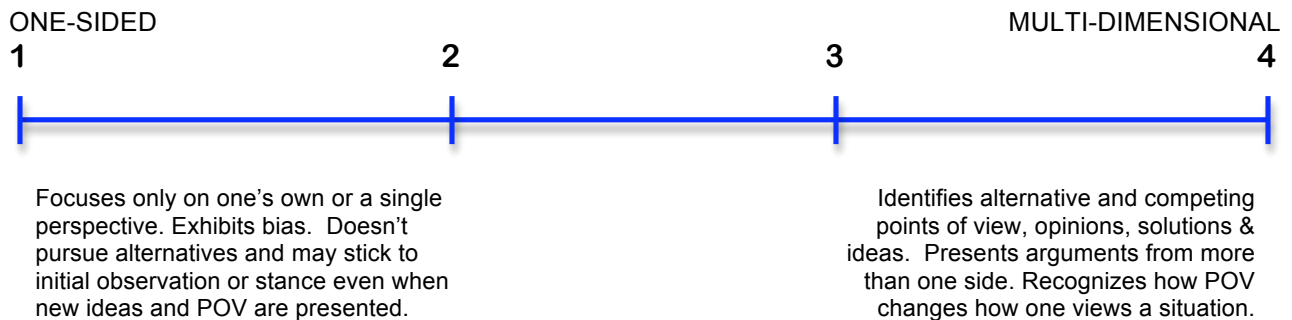
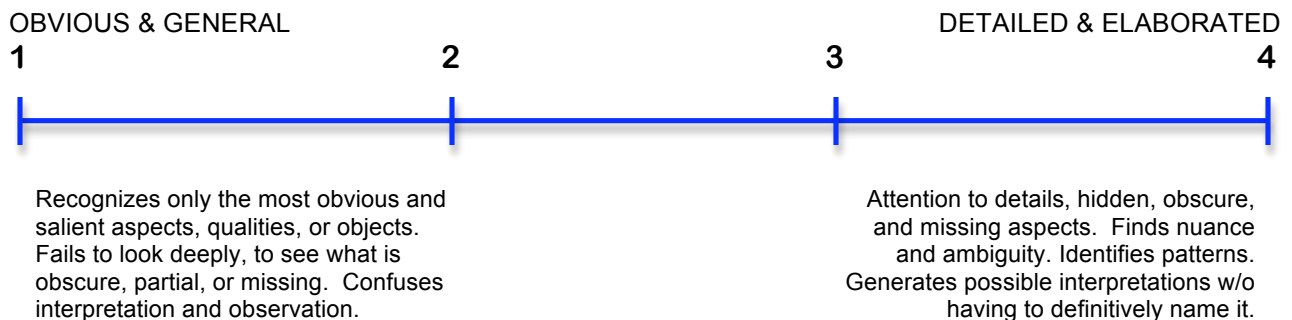


# 8 CONTINUA FOR THINKING\*

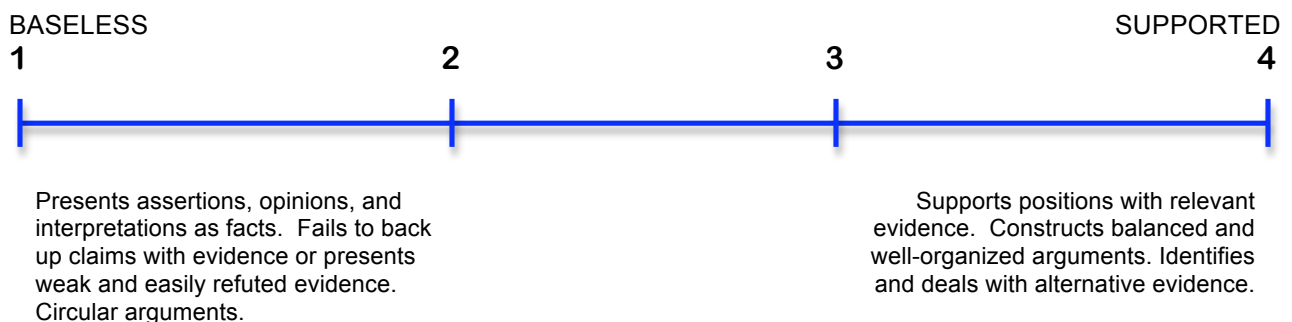
## Continuum 1: CONSIDERING VIEWPOINTS



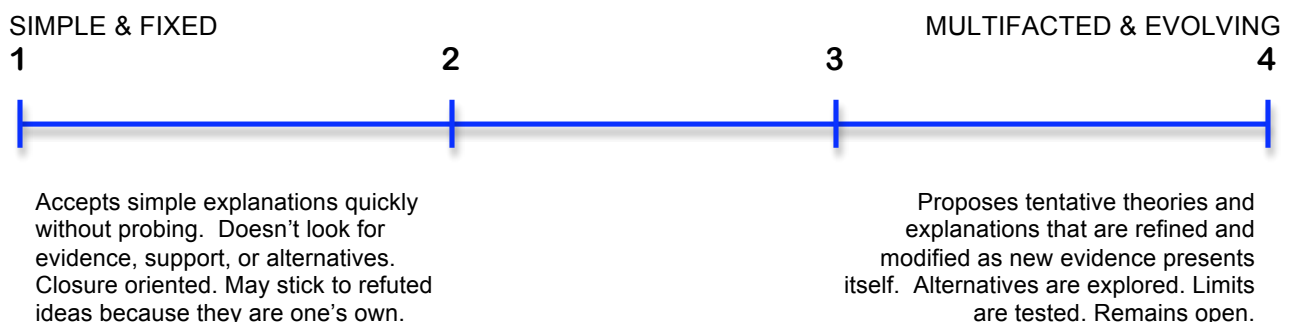
## Continuum 2: DESCRIBING WHAT'S THERE



## Continuum 3: REASONING WITH EVIDENCE



## Continuum 4: BUILDING EXPLANATIONS



## Continuum 5: MAKING CONNECTIONS

CURSORY & TRIVIAL

1

2

3

THOROUGH & INSIGHTFUL

4



Makes obvious and basic connections based on surface features. May connect to one's own experience in a tangential way. Connections don't expand the learning.

Connects within and across disciplines. Identifies deep structures, fundamental links and patterns that enhance one's understanding. Generalizes, builds theories, explanations, and metaphors.

## Continuum 6: CAPTURING THE HEART AND FORMING CONCLUSIONS

TANGENTIAL

1

2

3

CORE

4



Focuses on tangential or unimportant elements, details, or ideas. Misses core themes. Fails to generalize beyond the specific.

Recognizes but doesn't get distracted by superficial elements. Synthesizes and distills relevant information. Zeros in on core themes, issues, and ideas that transcend the specific.

## Continuum 7: WONDERING

NARROW & CLOSED

1

2

3

BROAD & GENERATIVE

4



Sticks to simple, close-ended questions with easy answers. Questions only scratch the surface and don't push or play with the topic.

Posses generative questions of deep personal interest that can guide personal and group inquiry. Asks big, encompassing questions that get at complex issues.

## Continuum 8: UNCOVERING COMPLEXITY

SUPERFICIAL

1

2

3

DEEP

4



Narrows thinking and ideas to what is immediately apparent. Doesn't explore below the surface or question information. Sees things in black and white. Closes thinking early on in the process.

Looks beneath the surface to explore deeper meaning and structures. Pushes boundaries. Identifies layers. Finds insightful connections. Remains open. Shows awareness of potential breadth of topics and ideas.