Five Prompts That Build Understanding (and Three That Do Not)

S4 Study Skills
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Copy these word for word. Fill in the parts in [brackets]. Check your teacher's rule first: if a class does not allow AI, these stay closed for that class.

Five that keep the thinking with you

1. Explain it like I missed the lesson

"I missed the lesson on [topic]. Explain it to me in simple steps, then ask me one question to check that I understood. Do not give me the answers to my homework."

2. Quiz me

"Quiz me on [chapter or topic] using my notes below. Ask one question at a time, wait for my answer, and then tell me whether I was right and why. [paste notes]"

3. Show me a similar problem

"I am working on problems like this: [describe the type of problem]. Make up a similar problem, solve it step by step, and explain each step. Then give me a new one to try on my own. Do not solve my homework problem."

4. What is weak about my argument?

"Here is a paragraph I wrote: [paste your own work]. What is the weakest part of my argument? Ask me questions about it instead of rewriting it."

5. What did I misunderstand?

"My teacher wrote this feedback: [paste feedback]. Here is the work it is about: [paste work]. Explain what I misunderstood, but let me make the fix myself."

Three that do the work for you, and what to ask instead

~~"Write my introduction about [topic]."~~ The thesis ends up belonging to the tool.	**ASK THIS INSTEAD** "Ask me three questions that will help me figure out what my introduction should say."
~~"Solve problem 7."~~ The practice gets done by the wrong party.	**ASK THIS INSTEAD** Prompt 3 above, with a different problem of the same type. Then do problem 7 with the tool closed.
~~"Rewrite this paragraph so it sounds better."~~ Your voice gets replaced.	**ASK THIS INSTEAD** "Point out the two sentences in this paragraph that are hardest to follow and tell me why. Do not rewrite them."

The tomorrow test

Could you explain it tomorrow with the tool closed? If yes, the AI helped you learn. If not, go back to prompt 1 or 2.