

Title: Post Box Task

Purpose: To develop students' ability to Question Pose



The purpose of this task is to develop students' ability to question pose. Providing opportunities for students to pose questions that merit mathematical investigation and scrutiny is fundamental to the development of students' abilities to reason, problem-solve, and think critically. Please note, this task is not an example of a Classroom-Based Assessment.

The Assessment Guidelines for Mathematics note that 'defining the problem statement' is an integral aspect of the Mathematical Investigation. The process begins with the student posing and refining the problem to be explored. Students must then identify relevant information that is needed to obtain a solution and/or solution method to the problem posed.

Questions posed can be motivated by curricular content or real-world phenomena. A useful strategy for developing the skill of problem posing in students is the use and integration of multi-modal stimuli such as images, photographs, diagrams, digital manipulatives, video and/or audio recordings. Problem posing is a creative act and is a skill that takes time to develop. Teachers should provide regular opportunities for students to develop these competences.



Look at this image and consider the questions that occur to you.

Sample Questions:

Sample Questions (Not an exhaustive list)	
	<p>Which post box could hold the most letters? What assumptions have been made?</p> <p>Why is the height of two post boxes different?</p> <p>How often does the postman visit the boxes and what happens with the letters thereafter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Efficient use of resources• Sorting office