Question creation guidelines

08/12/2025 2:40 pm EDT

All questions should:

- Be neutral and balanced, showing no bias.
- Be sensitive to current events.
- Use language recognizable to humans, not robots or professional survey-takers.
- Have mutually exclusive answer choices each answer option must be completely different from the other options (i.e., there's no overlap in the answers).
- Have exhaustive answer choices every question should have an answer for every respondent.
- Include an opt-out. That's an answer for those who have no opinion or no experience with the issue at hand, or simply do not wish to answer this particular question.

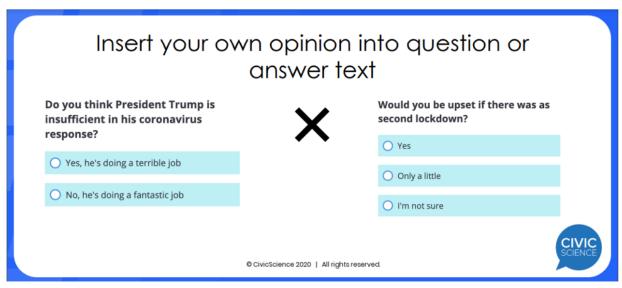
Approach articles around trauma with extreme caution (mass shootings, sexual assault allegations, etc.). Better yet, avoid them altogether.

Please consider attending the CivicScience Engagement Question Writing Training that we offer regularly.

DO

•	Ints in the question text itself and use answer options and opt-outs: If there was a second shutdown in your area as a result of the coronavirus crisis, to what extent would you support or oppose it?	
○ Is	Strongly support	
O Neutral	O Somewhat support	
○ Is not	O Neutral	
Other	○ Somewhat oppose	
Other	O Strongly oppose	
O No opinion		CIVIO
© Civ	Other / No opinion	SCIENC

DON'T



Engagement questions are meant to **engage** your audience by serving relevant polls based on your site designation/current events. They are intended to entice your readers to answer the poll and engage with the content on your site. They serve as a boundary between the site/article content and the following questions in the poll, which are research and demographic-based to meet various business objectives.

Value questions are used for research purposes. Please contact your account manager for guidance in creating value questions.

Profile questions collect demographic information. They are also used for research. Please see your account manager if you need any profile questions created.

Media partners can create engagement and value questions to run solely on their own sites.