



# Zooming In

**Focus:** Development of Critical Thinking Skills

**Materials needed:** None



Use the QR code to find out more and see more cards in the NILE A-Z training activity series!

# Aims

- To enhance critical and evaluative thinking



PART OF THE INTO GROUP

# Zooming In

## Procedure

1. Start by making a highly general or controversial statement, e.g. *My textbook is really awful. My learners are bored by it and so am I.* You may want to write it on the board so that participants have time and space to think about it.
2. Ask participants to work in pairs to come up with a question which probes a bit more deeply into the statement. Examples might be: (a) *What is it about the book that you don't like?* or (b) *Why do your learners find it boring?*
3. Answer each pair's question concisely, e.g. (a) *The reading texts are too long and difficult* or (b) *They don't concentrate on the grammar exercises.*
4. Invite the pairs to come up with a follow-up question to probe still more deeply, and repeat the process above until you and they are satisfied that they have reached the heart of the matter.
5. Use this technique whenever someone in the group makes a broad and general statement, just to get them to focus their opinions more sharply and productively.