Asking Research Questions in a Writing Conference

(Carl Anderson ~ *How’s it Going?)*

Questions that nudge students to say more

* Could you say more about that?
* What do you mean by…?
* Could you explain what you mean by…?

Questions that grow out of our knowledge of what good writers do

* Have you planned out your draft?
* What’s the focus of this piece?
* What’s at the heart of your story?
* What kinds of revisions have you made? Why?

Questions about students writing strategies

* How are you going to do this work?
* What strategies are you doing to use to do this work?
* How are you planning to get started with your draft?

Questions that come from what we already know about our students

* Have you done some of the revision work you tried in your last piece?
* How did you pick this idea for your draft?

Questions connected to our mini-lessons

* Have you tried what we talked about in our mini-lesson?
* Have you used any of the strategies we discussed this week in order to revise your piece? Can you show me where?

Questions about a student’s decision

* Why did you pick these places to add-on?
* Why did you decide to structure your draft this way?
* What did you repeat this word/line several times?