Question Stems for Predicting Short Answer Questions

These question starters can help you as you predict higher-order questions as part of your test preparation for any class.

✓ What is the difference between ... and ...
✓ Do you agree or disagree with ... ? Support your answer.
✓ What conclusions do you draw about ... ?
✓ Explain why ...
✓ How are ... and ... similar and different?
✓ How would you use ... for ... ?
✓ What would happen if ... ?
✓ What are the strengths and weaknesses of ... ?
✓ How does ... relate to what we learned about ... earlier?
✓ Explain how ...
✓ How does ... affect ... ?
✓ Why is ... important?
✓ What do you think causes ... ?
✓ Compare ... and ... in regards to ...
✓ What are some possible solutions to the problem of ... ?
✓ What is the meaning of ... ?
✓ Explain and give examples of ...
✓ What is the relationship between ... and ... ?
✓ What is the effect of ... ?
✓ Why is ... better than ... ?