

Strategies to Ascertain Prior Knowledge

Document the Problem

Ask Students to write down or talk through every step they know to take to get the answer, without interrupting

Paraphrase the Text/Problem

Ask the student to rephrase the question, prompt, or text in their own words

Define Keywords

Ask student to make a list of keywords, either from memory or from the prompt, then define as many as they can

Minute Paper

Ask student to write for a minute, without stopping or pausing, about everything they know about a topic

Be Overt

Don't treat it like a secret, it can be as simple as just asking them what they know about a topic!