

**2024 Garden Docent Training
Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens
Questions used during the February 20 Inquiry Activities**

Inquiry Activity: Japanese-style Garden

1. (Hook, open, divergent) Pretend you are at the top of this garden. **What's the first thing that comes to your mind if you were standing at the top looking at the garden?**
2. Go down to the bottom. Look for surprises. (closed, cognitive-memory) **What is the first thing that came into your view as you traveled down?**
3. This garden has a very different look and atmosphere from the French garden. (closed, cognitive-memory) **What kind of a garden is this?**
4. (closed, cognitive-memory) **Have you been to other gardens like this? Japanese-style gardens or Japanese?**
5. (closed, convergent) **On first viewing, how is this garden different from others you've explored like the French parterre or motor court?**
6. (closed, cognitive-memory) **What materials or elements of design do you see in the garden? How are they used?**
7. (closed, convergent) **How is the upper garden different from the lower garden?**
8. (open, divergent) **Where would you like to spend time in this garden? Why?**
9. (open, divergent) **Why would someone have a garden like this?**
10. (open, divergent) **What does this garden tell us about Marjorie Post?**
11. Hillwood did an extensive renovation of this garden more than 20 years ago—at tremendous cost and human effort. (open, divergent) **Why would a museum do this? What does this garden tell us about Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens?**

Inquiry Activity: Compare and Contrast the Japanese-style Garden and French Parterre

1. How are these gardens alike and different? Compare and contrast.
2. What is each garden's relationship to Post: her taste and style and usage?
3. How are their design & features alike and different?
4. What do we know about each garden's relationship to the museum today?
5. What big take-aways can we conclude about these two gardens?

