

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is a deeper form of thinking, it is a key skill we use in everyday tasks (Monash University, 2020). Furthermore, there are different approaches to critical thinking, one of which is an educational approach. The educational approach suggests that questioning, analyzing and evaluating information plays a key part in critical thinking (University of Leeds Library, 2021). The information being analyzed could be material that has been read, written, seen or heard. The University of Essex (2016) suggests that students should ensure the research gathered is originated from a reliable source, and that it does not contain biased information. According to The University of Essex online (2016) being biased is considered a poor form of critical thinking, as it demonstrates the inability to being open minded and accept facts due to being opinionated.

Therefore, in general, critical thinking is a process of decision making and creating an argument, where the argument can be supported with evidence gathered (Hanscomb, 2017). Using critical thinking skills can become part of decision making for some learners, where a critical thinker seeks reliable information to create a strong argument by considering all different perspectives and is therefore unbiased. There are ways critical thinking skills can be improved, including practicing necessary skills (McMillan and Weyers 2013).

Critical thinking is not about being criticizing; however, it does involve questioning every piece of information gathered (Deane and Borg, 2012). Therefore, it requires reflecting on an opinion one may have, and acknowledging it may not be a valid or reliable point, as there would be little evidence to support the viewpoint.

Reference List:

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