Critical Thinking

Introduction

What is Critical Thinking?
Skills You Need (2011) states that
"Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and rationally, understanding the logical connection between ideas."

Critical thinking is an important part of learning, there are many Characteristics that forms a critical thinker.

Varsha Tyagi (2015) States that Critical thinkers are Non-opiniated, Rational, Reflective, Curious and inquisitive.

Note Taking

Taking notes is a good skill in education, it helps with focus and understanding. To take good notes you need to focus on the important and key points of information. Note taking helps with retaining information and helps with cognitive memory.
Being prepared is vital in note taking, knowing the topic before hand is helpful and keeping the notes dated with the title helps with referring back to notes and it helps to read notes prior to the next lectures to promote new ideas and learning.
There are different strategies for note taking for example notes can be typed on a laptop or hand written. There are also different ways to layout notes and different ways work differently for individuals, such as noting keywords names, dates. Also making mind maps and structuring the notes into topics. (*The Learning centre)*

Note taking relates to critical thinking, this is because to take notes you will need to think critically. Being a critical thinker when taking notes is about picking out the key information that is reliable and credible. *Deakin University* (2020)

In my personal experience taking notes helps me to retain information, it helps that I can refer back to the information and it helps me to develop my learning.

Research Skills

Research is the focus and investigation on a certain topic. There are many different types of research which require a number of skills. Research has a vital role in expanding a persons knowledge and educate them on specific topics. When you approach research you need to have an objective, a focus point. Research provides people withs facts and information to help expand their education. There are skilling needed to help a people research, for example, skimming and scanning to locate the information needed as well as then summarizing and concluding information that has been found. Thinking critically, to convey, is this information bias, is it relevant, is it reliable or credible.
Be a critical Thinker when researching is about thinking where you sourced your information from, can I trust this source? *White, S. (2020)*

Research helps me in my daily life as a student as well as in my job. It is a vital tool for me as a student learning, as well as in my job where I can support children in their research. Things that we are unsure of we can use research to help us. I also use research to expand my knowledge or to confirm something I am unsure of so I can back up what I say with evidence.

Skills for Life (2010)

Conclusion

To conclude my poster, being a critical thinker is vital in education, the skills that can support someone in being a critical thinker include Note-taking, research skills, time management and many more.
Learning such skills can support us as learners in our studies as well as teaching us to be open minded.

Time Management

Time management is a skill of critical thinking. Time management is the planning and organising of your tasks and planning your time effectively.
Time management can help you to set daily goals and to prioritize them in order of most to least important. It helps you to put the focus onto what most important.
Tumsnishvili, G.G. (2021)

Time management cannot only help you be organised but can help to reduce stress and anxiety. There are many different strategies that can help effective time management, for example to-do lists can be effective in time management skills as they can give you a clear view set out to see what tasks you need to complete and which are most to least important to be completed.
Good time management can help to manage time when you set time frames in which you complete your tasks. Which can then also help free up time to spend with family and on hobbies.
Using a calendar or diary in your daily/weekly life can help with short term and long term time management as you can plan your week and day ahead and plan your time effectively.
CFI Team (2022)

From my personal experience with time management keeping a diary helps to plan and organise my time. Keeping a diary helps my memory to remind me what tasks I need to complete and when. Keep a diary reduces my stress as I can look in it to plan when I need to complete tasks in work and to log any meeting I have. I also use it to plan my time when I have appointments or lectures and it is beneficial to see when I have free time to take breaks relax and see my friends and family.

Literacy pathway (2019)

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