

**What is critical thinking?**

Critical thinking is using your mind in a cognitive way, How to think critically? Critical thinking helps you to make better decision by analysing everything, (science in motion, 2020). to question everything and how things could have been done differently. Critical thinking involves logic, reasoning and creativity to come to conclusions and to help us better our understanding. Critical thinking can be applied to almost most aspects of life from preparing for a meeting to planning your day. Critical thinking is a intentional process which is used when face with a difficult situation or important decisions. To become a better critical thinker people need to ask questions starting with simple ones such as what they already know is normally a good starting point and this will help piece the puzzle together. According to Beyer (1995) critical thinking means ‘making clear, reasoned judgments’. This is very true in many cases as after all the research is done and all the information is collected it will help with an informal judgment and the topic. This is important for many academic students as it helps enable them to create work without being personal. There are many ways to help your Cristical thinking.

**Time Management**

Simply time management is about making a plan, managing how long you spend on each task and using your time wisely so students don’t spend hours looking at their phone rather than doing some research. Think of time management as in four different sections first, goal setting- there are two types of goal setting short term goals and long term goals this help to prioritise time in the most effective way for example during a module there might be two assignments first might be a quiz and second might be a poster. By using time management effectively the person will study for the quiz and then the other without getting confused or mixed up with what one is for which. Second, Prioritisation is important to enable students to achieve the best possible without getting stressed or worried because they have left something until last minute by prioritising students complete all the work in stages for example while doing an academic poster with sections the student might spend so many days just on one topic then so many days on another this enables the student to complete one section at a time making sure that all the information is correct. Thirdly Organisation, this is very important to make sure that the student has plenty of time to finish all aspects of the assignment before the date and doesn’t miss out any important information because they have rushed and have not had time to re read the work over. Finally managing stress, this can be a difficult one as many work better under some stress however, to much stress can lead to poor execution of the work as students may feel they will write anything to just get it done. (Australian Christian College (2021). Time has limited resources and there for needs to be managed effectively. Macan (1994) suggested that learning time management behaviours lead to greater perception of control over time.

**Research**

Research always starts with a question, that is designed to give you more information on a specific topic. Research involves a process which is systematic, knowledge, observation, experimentation, gathering an investigation of information or the collection of data. Scitoons.(2020). It can be done to further ideas, applying new theories, solving problems or understanding more information on the topic. According to Science in motion (2020) When researching it is important to make to sure to use a reliable source for example if the website has .ac.uk, .Edu, .gov.uk then these all indicate a reliable source and not something anyone can edit like Wikipedia. Another way to ensure that the research is safe and relevant is by using a feature within google where the search is only a specific type of search for example only you can ask it to search without having Wikipedia in the search area. In order to make sure your research is relevant it is important to use websites that are also relevant for example if you are doing research on the Welsh curriculum then the website that would be the best is possibly the government website as it was created from by them a website maybe not to use would be the guardian as this is written by someone who has not got all the facts however has written about it.

Critical Thinking

2105369  
ECGE4001P

**Note Taking**

There is no right or wrong way to take notes, some people like to take notes by doing mind maps, some like to use highlighters or bold writing, all is ok what we must remember is notes should be clear and simple, that reminds us of the important things. A lot of people make one simple mistake when taking notes and that is knowing the difference between note taking and making notes. Simply note taking is where people take notes from a lecture or a book. Making notes is where preparing for something such as a essay. Note taking is productive as in the student will automatically paraphrase the information that is being given, it will also help to understand the information that is being given, and organise the information into what is needed and what is not so necessary. Open University (2021)One very important thing to remember when note taking to make sure it is all in one place so that when it comes to revision or exams everything is in one place from the start, and will makes things easier. While note taking your brain has time to absorb what you have read or listened to. Good note taking takes time to do correctly and is a skill that should be used all the time for example going into meeting notes are taken of the important stuff mentioned within, lectures notes are taken during lectures to enable students to remember what was said Note taking is something that you start doing when you are studying and carry on doing during your adult hood and into work. Kids Health (1995) According to Pauk, W. (1989) there are 5 things to remember when note taking, these are called the 5 Rs which are: record, reduce, recite, reflect and review. Note taking allows people turn their memories into a hard copy (Bohay, Blakely, Tamplin, & Radvansky, 2011; Piolat, Olive, & Kellogg, 2005).

**Conclusion**

Critical thinking is a way to analysis everything to think what has happened how can this be done next time around. Critical thinking has many different aspect which all aid the critical thinking process some of them are Note taking, time management and research. When thinking about note taking students must think of what it is they need to remember, how can this be done effectively. Time management is all about making a plan and finding a way to use time that is available affectively and not wasting time. Research, this is important because without research how can students find all the information needed to critically think, doing research affectively gives the student the ability to find the information needed quickly accurately without spending hours going through every website. All of these help students become a better critical thinker and will help develop study skills for future refence.

## Reference List:

- Australian Christian College (2021) *Time Management skills that improve student learning* Available at: <https://www.acc.edu.au/blog/time-management-skills-student-learning/> (Accessed 18 Septmeber 2021).
- Beyer, B.K., 1995. *Critical Thinking*. Fastback 385. available at: <https://online.essex.ac.uk/blog/the-importance-of-critical-thinking/> accessed on (12 September 2021)
- Bohay, M., Blakely, D. P., Tamplin, A. K., & Radvansky, G. A. (2011). Note taking, review, memory, and comprehension. *The American Journal of Psychology*, 124, 63– 73. doi:10.5406/amerjpsyc.124.1.0063 Available at: [https://hwpi.harvard.edu/files/hilt/files/notetaking\\_0.pdf](https://hwpi.harvard.edu/files/hilt/files/notetaking_0.pdf) (Accessed on 21 September 2021).
- Crash Course (2017) *Taking notes: Crash Course Study Skills #1* [video] Available at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7CwqNHn\\_Ns](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7CwqNHn_Ns) (Accessed 14 September 2021).
- GCFLearnFree.org (2019) *What is critical thinking?* [video] Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eEBuqwY-nE> (Accessed 12 September 2021).
- Kids Health (1995) *Note Taking tips* Available at: <https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/take-notes.html> (Accessed on 20 September 2021).
- Macan, T. H. (1994) 'Time Management: Test of a Process Model'. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 79, 381-391 [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Amit-Singh-184/publication/327890577\\_A\\_descriptive\\_study\\_of\\_time\\_management\\_models\\_and\\_theories/links/5bab8869a6fdccd3cb73e9fb/A-descriptive-study-of-time-management-models-and-theories.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Amit-Singh-184/publication/327890577_A_descriptive_study_of_time_management_models_and_theories/links/5bab8869a6fdccd3cb73e9fb/A-descriptive-study-of-time-management-models-and-theories.pdf)
- Pauk, W. (1989). *How to Study in College* (4th Ed.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Available at: <http://tutorials.istudy.psu.edu/notetaking/notetaking8.html> (Accessed on 21 September 2021)
- Science in motion (2020) *what is research?* [video] Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-xvrGv4u-bk> (Accessed 10 September 2021).
- Scitoons.(2020) *what is research?* [video] available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBomUBY62a4> (accessed 10 September 2021).
- The open University (2021) *Note taking Techniques* Available at: <https://help.open.ac.uk/notetaking-techniques> (Accessed 19 September 2021)