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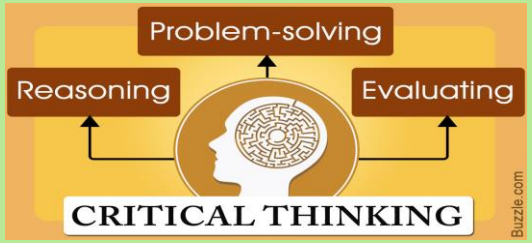
CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

WHAT IS CRITICAL THINKING

According to Eales *et al* (2013) critical thinking is essential to study. By looking at an issue critically and objectively we can build and be able to present a well justified argument. Michael Tomaszewski (2021) suggests that for us to be an improved critical thinker we need to ask easy and simple questions, challenge our own biased view, be aware of any preconceived opinions and to explore the subject by exploring and reading more. Take for example a detective who collects relevant information and then uses and analyzes the evidence before finally coming to a conclusion. (Cottrell, 2019)

Source: Buzzle.com



PROBLEM SOLVING

Problems present themselves on a daily basis in all aspects of our lives.(Cottrell,2013) According to Indeed.com (2021) problem solving is the process of collecting, evaluating and communicating information to implement and solve the issue. Cottrell (2013) states that problem solving allows us to develop logical thinking and vision to be able to observe, assess and deal with any potential issues.

OBSERVATION SKILLS

Observation skills are the starting point for critical thinking. Oxford dictionary online states that observation is the act of watching somebody or something carefully for a period of time, especially to learn something. (Indeed.com,2021) suggests that attentive people can quickly perceive and identify new problems and by having these skills we can also learn and understand why something might arise and be an issue. According to the website CCMIT, whether it be in a workplace, school or at home, having observation skills applies to all. To respond appropriately and improve your ability to interact with others by allowing ourselves to take notice other than just listening, results in the improvement of your observational skills and to make better decisions

COMMUNICATION

Whilst "communication is a two-way process"(Cottrell, 2019,p.178). Indeed.com (2021) states that communication skills allows us to understand and be understood by others when discussing issues, and happens through eye contact, facial expressions and the use of our body language. Listening and good communication skills also need to be made evident in making our opinions known, in addition to us being able to give and accept criticism too. (Cottrell, 2013).

Source:Indeed.Com (indeed career guide)

CONCLUSION

To conclude, the three skills I've chosen most certainly are relevant to me and especially in my job as a lunchtime supervisor and are important towards my development of critical thinking in general. As Cottrell (2019) states, developing these skills will help us benefit by encouraging us to see the situations we are faced with around us in a clearer perspective and with confidence and with an open mind.

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