

ARE YOU A CRITICAL THINKER?

WHAT IS CRITICAL THINKING?

"Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and rationally, understanding the logical connection between ideas."
(SkillsYouNeed, 2011)

critical thinking is a useful skill allowing you think and learn responsibly and independently.



WHY DO YOU NEED TO THINK CRITICALLY?

Thinking critically can allow for a more beneficial way of learning, encouraging/promoting a successful outcome. As students, acquiring this skill improves the ability analyse information and make informed decisions. Critical thinking enhances creativity, encouraging curiosity to shine through. It promotes self-reflection and self-assertion while nurturing problem solving and decision-making skills during this time and for later in life.

HOW TO BECOME A CRITICAL THINKER

There are numerous skills involved when becoming a critical thinker. The ability to create reasonable, realistic conclusions based on the research and evidence discovered. This can be found from articles, books, videos, journals, verbal communication and many more. It's down to you to use your critical thinking skills to analyse this information, make necessary judgements and further your research to determine your findings/outcome.

'critical thinking includes practices of analyzing arguments, predicting potential consequences, developing genuine strategies, finding alternative and appropriate ways to deal with situations and making decisions' (Akcaoglu, Mor, Kulekci, 2023. p.2)

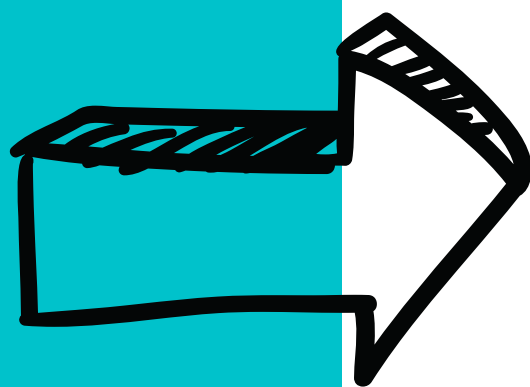
SKILLS EVERY CRITICAL THINKER SHOULD HAVE

The following are some of the most useful skills one can have to enhance critical thinking:

- Observation
- Analysis
- Inference
- Communication
- Problem solving
- Open mindedness
- Creativity



(Indeed, 2019)



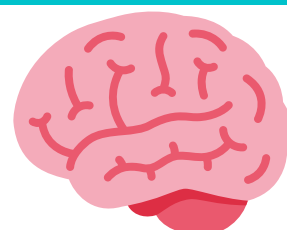
These critical thinking skills will help you on your journey to success. Each aspect involves a different element to consider in order to achieve the desired outcome.

By using these skills, you will be able to make informed decisions based on factual evidence supporting your opinions and conclusions. You will be able to analyse information by asking yourself these relevant questions:



- Who?
- What?
- Where?
- When?
- Why?
- How?

METACOGNITION



Our ability to become critical thinkers is based upon the skills we learn, the challenges we face and the ability to think deeply.

The input into our research, work and something else is mostly self-initiated and self-aware. Metacognition is our ability to process individual thoughts. It determines the way we plan, monitor and evaluate our thinking in the work we create and how we organise different aspects of our life in order to reach our goals successfully. (Cambridge Assessment, 2018)
It allows similarities to be made between old and new information and encourages reflection.

Skills for life

Developing these skills can make great attributes for the future. Skills such as problem-solving and communication are important qualities that are necessary during studying in order to achieve greatness, but these skills are useful in many aspects of life. They are useful when making decisions and life choices and are qualities that future employers look for.