

Introduction

According to Cottrell (2017) Critical thinking is a cognitive activity, associated with using the mind. Critical thinking involves the use of a wide range of skills. The skill to be able to read between the lines identifying false or unfair assumptions. Critical thinkers ask questions the right questions, questions that help form their own opinion and conclusion this involves gathering and evaluating the correct information to make better judgments and decisions. It involves using logic, reasoning and creativity to draw conclusions and generally understand things better.

Team work

Teamwork according to the open university (2021) & Unison in partnership (2021). Is when a group of people are able to work collaboratively drawing on each other's skills to get a task done. According to the open university & unison in partnership the quality of teamwork may be measured by using six components of collaboration. These components consist of communication, coordination, balance of a member contributions, mutual support, effort and cohesion. According to Lencioni (2014) teamwork is the greatest competitive advantage that any group of people can have.

Problem solving

Problem solving

Problem solving is something we are faced with every day. Critical thinkers are able to process and assess the problem rational by looking at the problem and assessing what is needed to be done. Problem solvers and critical thinkers have the ability to use knowledge, facts and data to solve the problem effectively. By solving problems, we gain confidence and increase self-esteem. By critically thinking about problem-solving we become more able to naturally be able to deal with day-to-day life and problems.

"The problems remain unsolved for two reasons the first is the lack of information the second is the previously and unresolved issue on the same topic" L. Ron Hubbard



Reflection

Reflection is a crucial part of being evaluative and succeeding in meeting objectives.

It may be necessary to use critical thinking skills to improve your future performance or within group tasks, analysing the ways in which you can work more effectively together.

Somebody who places value on being reflective is able to stand back and look objectively on something and decide without emotion what the best course of action

Kolb's Learning Cycle (1984) suggests that learners who use reflective practice begin to focus on the 'why' not just how things happen. This is fundamental to growth and progress in learning

Conclusion

To conclude problem solving, teamwork and reflection are three attributes needed to develop critical thinking. Critical thinking skills are necessary in every aspect of day today life. Critical thinking when put into practice helps to develop an understanding of questioning, reflecting, resourcing in order to understand our way of thinking. It helps use to source the information needed to make a more informed less judgmental opinion. Developing an understanding of our own and other people's views and beliefs.

References

Cottrell, S. (2017) Critical Thinking Skills. 3RD ed. London: Red Globe Press.

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The Open University (2021) *What is team working*. Available at: <https://www.open.ac.uk/choose/unison/develop/my-skills/team-working> (Accessed: 13.09.21).