International Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Vol. 24, Issue 03, 2020
ISSN: 1475-7192

Why is critical thinking so important in academic life?

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Annotation

Research has been investigated major points of critical thinking in academic life. In this case, both theoretical and methodological analyses were conducted. This article outline the role of critical thinking in the learning process. Finally, outcomes and shortcomings of the research has been mentioned in the life f science, academy and critical thinking also stated there as a vital factor.

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Keywords

Evidence, question , answer, critical thinking, importance, academic, life,

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I. Introduction

When we hear the word, critical", we consider it" negative" and "fault-finding". This is sense which comes from our mind. But critical is not criticizing someone or something.

In order to think critically we need to examine ideas and evaluate them against what is already known and made decisions about their merits. The basic target of critical thinking is to try to move on of an objective position,when we consider all sides of an argument and evaluate its merits and demerits. So critical thinking skills involve the following:

- Actively thinking to find all sides of an argument
- Testing the soundness of the claims made
- Testing the soundness of the evidence used to support the claims

Because our target when thinking critically is to respond objectively to what and why we are thinking through.

Thinking critically can also be helpful to create strong arguments of our own. What I mean by this, we will be able to present and justify any claims we make based on the evidence we have evaluated.

II. Main part

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DOI: 10.37200/IJPR/V24I3/PR200780
Received: 11 Jan 2020 | Revised: 30 Jan 2020 | Accepted: 02 Feb 2020

Critical thinking involves three parts. First, critical thinking involves asking questions. It involves asking questions that need to be asked, asking good questions, questions that go to the heart of the matter. Critical thinking involves noticing that there are questions that need to be addressed. **Second,** critical thinking involves trying to answer those questions by reasoning them out. Reasoning out answers to questions is different from other ways of answering questions. It is different from giving an answer we have always taken for granted but never thought about. It is different from answering, or answering simply according to the way we were raised, or answering in accordance with our personality. It is also different from answering by saying the first thing that comes into our mind, and then using all our power of reasoning to defend that answer. **Third**, critical thinking involves believing the results of our reasoning. Critical thinking is different from just engaging in a mental exercise. When we think through an issue critically, we internalize the results. We don't give merely verbal agreement: we actually believe the results because we have done our best to reason the issue out and we know that reasoning things out is the best way to get reliable answer.[1]

Critical thinking begins with asking questions. If a teacher assigns a homework problem to solve, a good question to ask is "How can I best solve this problem?" Often, though, students, don't ask this question at all. Instead, they just jump in and try to solve the problem by any method that springs to mind. Thinking critically about solving a problem, in contrast, begins with asking questions about the problem and about ways to address it:

- What are some alternative ways of solving the problem assigned?
- What is a good way to begin?
- Do I have all the information I need to start solving the problem?
- What is the purpose behind the problem?
- Can the problem besolved? Does it even make sense?

All of these questions are relevant when a problem is assigned. But when teachers assign problems, they have already done a fundamental part of the questioning. Posing a problem is asking a question. So, a major part of learning how to think critically is learning to ask the questions.

III. Analyses

This is true not just in school, but in daily life as well. People often do not ask themselves, "How can I best get along with my parents (my partner, my co-workers, my friends) in this situation?" Instead, they continue relating to them in habitual and unexamined ways.[3]

Critical thinking is a vital part in every academic life such as when reading, when writing and when teaching.

There are some activities to improve students' critical thinking skills.

1. **Group- solving**

In this activity teacher gives students a dice which four has parts. These parts are sealed with four words. These are:

1.COMPARE

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2.ANALYSE

3.CATEGORISE

4.EVALUATE

Teacher divides students into four groups. Then she/he will put a problem and let them discuss. Teacher throws away the dice. Groups give their points of view according to their parts.

2.What color is Sunday?

Teacher asks students to close their eyes. And then teacher asks this question from every students. Every students has their own concerns. So students may give different answers. For example, one of them may say " As for me Sunday is black, because on Sundays I do many housechorus". However, teacher should ask somewh? questions. Why?,What?, How?.

There are some unusual questions to ask in order to improve students' critical thinking skills.

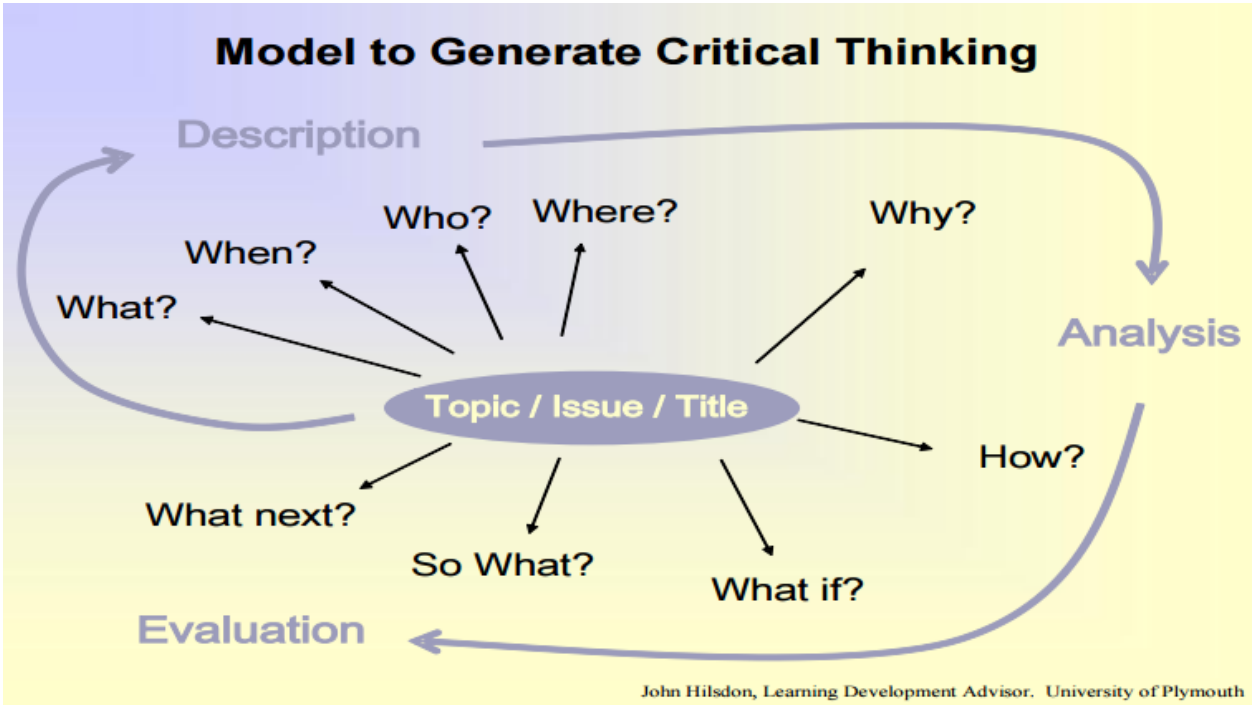
1.What color is Sunday?

2.what does a food mixer and this class have in common?

3. How would life be different if we had eyes in the back of our head as well as in the front?

3**. Let's do research.**

In this activity teacher can give any kind of problems to find solutions. The problems are put in the middle and students discuss then in DESCRIPTION part they struggle to answear these WH? questions. Afterwards they do analysis. In the last part with the helpof " what if?, so what?, what next?" they do evaluation.



DOI: 10.37200/IJPR/V24I3/PR200780
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Conclusion

The research has concluded with *both theoretical and methodological analyses were conducted. This article outline the role of critical thinking in the learning process. Finally, plus and minuses of the critical thinking and research points were discussed as the whole.*

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