

Critical Thinking Rubric

Critical Thinking is the disciplined process of applying the skills of analysis, evaluation, explanation, perspective-taking, and synthesis to knowledge gathered from inquiry, observation or experience, which guides thought and action. It is the disciplined processing of knowledge.

	Accomplished	Competent	Developing
Analysis: Extracting meaning or solving a problem from relevant material.	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies essential elements of the issue/object of analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Selects appropriate methods, discusses assumptions thoroughly <input type="checkbox"/> Deductions are sound and valid; inferences fit relevant evidence and are accurate. <input type="checkbox"/> Calculations are correct	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies some elements of the issue/object of analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Selects relevant methods, mentions assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Deductions mostly sound and valid; inferences generally correct and are based on relevant evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Calculations are mostly correct	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails to correctly identify elements of the issue/object of analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Selects inappropriate methods, overlooks assumptions <input type="checkbox"/> Deductions sometimes sound and valid; flawed reasoning; inferences not tied to relevant evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Calculations flawed
Evaluation: Using criteria to make reasoned judgments about the quality of ideas, evidence, materials, and arguments.	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies appropriate criteria <input type="checkbox"/> Judges object of evaluation using appropriate evidence and/or valid criteria <input type="checkbox"/> Clear articulation of connection between evidence and conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies some appropriate criteria <input type="checkbox"/> Judges object of evaluation using some appropriate evidence and/or valid criteria <input type="checkbox"/> Articulation of some connections between evidence and conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Fails to identify appropriate criteria <input type="checkbox"/> Superficially judges object of evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Flawed or missing connection between evidence and conclusion
Explanation: Stating and describing clearly and comprehensively all relevant information, arguments, and conclusions.	<input type="checkbox"/> Explicitly uses appropriate sources. <input type="checkbox"/> Clearly identifies/justifies assumptions and provides evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Uses strong persuasive support to present arguments and demonstrate conclusions	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses information from several sources. <input type="checkbox"/> Identifies/justifies some assumptions and uses some evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Provides support to present arguments and conclusions	<input type="checkbox"/> Misuses or vaguely uses materials or relevant sources <input type="checkbox"/> identifies/justifies assumptions and fails to provide evidence or uses irrelevant information <input type="checkbox"/> Support for arguments and conclusions is limited or lacking
Perspective Taking: Recognizing and articulating the strengths and limitations of multiple perspectives on an issue.	<input type="checkbox"/> Articulates the context and complexity of an issue from multiple perspectives <input type="checkbox"/> Analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of multiple perspectives <input type="checkbox"/> Personal views or biases are appropriately acknowledged	<input type="checkbox"/> Recognizes and expresses different perspectives on an issue <input type="checkbox"/> Identifies some strengths and limitations of multiple perspectives <input type="checkbox"/> Personal views or biases are somewhat acknowledged	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple perspectives on an issue may be unclear, unfocused, and/or absent <input type="checkbox"/> Strengths and limitations of multiple perspectives are vague or absent <input type="checkbox"/> Personal views or biases are unacknowledged
Synthesis: Identifying, compiling, and integrating component ideas into a coherent or new whole.	<input type="checkbox"/> Logical connections, supported by evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Coherent integration that results in new understanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are summarized and some obvious connections are made <input type="checkbox"/> Some degree of integration of ideas	<input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are summarized but connections are not made or lack logic/evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Little or no integration of ideas