

14. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Quiz 1:

Question 1 of 4

Elina has trouble staying focused on any topic for very long. Which step is most useful for Elina?

- ☐ Create a more rigid agenda.
- ☐ React to external stimuli as they appear.
- ☐ **Prepare mentally and physically for the activity.**
- ☐ Adapt to new ideas and challenges.

Question 2 of 4

Seppo holds on to certain biases that tend to cause some bad decisions and blunders in his life. How can Seppo improve?

- ☐ **by actively studying what went wrong in the past**
- ☐ by using more systematic reasoning
- ☐ by studying logic and analysis
- ☐ by striving for a more positive outlook

Question 3 of 4

Why is it useful for a leader to begin a discussion with questions?

- ☐ They can demonstrate your lack of knowledge.
- ☐ They can confirm your assumptions.
- ☐ **They can stimulate conversation.**

Question 4 of 4

Why is it important to identify the purpose of an information source?

- ☐ to understand the compensation required
- ☐ **to identify biases**
- ☐ to determine its appropriate use
- ☐ to understand the format

Quiz 2:

Question 1 of 3

In the PERT process, what must you do right before making your final plan?

- ☐ **Assess feasibility and make adjustments.**
- ☐ Build a timeline.
- ☐ List subtasks and their interdependencies.
- ☐ Identify the ultimate goal of the project.

Question 2 of 3

When should you use participatory decision-making?

- ☐ **when additional expertise is needed**
- ☐ when you have a long timeline
- ☐ when there are high-impact consequences

Question 3 of 3

Why should you introduce some structure into your problem-solving methods?

- ☐ to achieve a traceable result
- ☒ **to reduce conflict and achieve better decisions**
- ☐ to make everyone feel appreciated
- ☐ to increase speed and reduce ambiguity

Quiz 3:

Question 1 of 5

Atul wants to ensure that the current project embraces all cultural groups. Which type of criterion concerns Atul?

- ☐ practical
- ☐ legal
- ☐ economic
- ☒ **ethical**

Question 2 of 5

Why would buzz groups generate more ideas than a brainstorming session?

- ☐ They require all participants to speak for a few minutes.
- ☐ They give specific assignments to each participant.
- ☒ **They encourage quieter participants to speak up.**

Question 3 of 5

You are arguing to make a change to the current methods for accomplishing a task. Which type of statement are you making?

- ☐ fact
- ☐ **policy**
- ☐ value

Question 4 of 5

When limiting decision choices, what is the most important factor to consider?

- ☐ It is okay if the final choice does not meet the success criteria.
- ☐ Always use a cost-benefit analysis.
- ☒ **Perfection is not necessary.**
- ☐ Multi-voting is preferable to single voting.

Question 5 of 5

Why should you use an iterative process in solution implementation?

- ☐ to engage stakeholders
- ☐ to enable minimal effort
- ☒ **to constantly improve**
- ☐ to reduce costs

Quiz 4:

Question 1 of 3

How can you avoid groupthink?

- ☒ **by appointing a devil's advocate**
- ☐ by using the decisions of one small group
- ☐ by taking first impressions as final
- ☐ by letting the leader speak up and take charge

Question 2 of 3

Pedro calls Maria a habitual liar and concludes that nothing she says is trustworthy. Which type of fallacy is Pedro exhibiting?

- ☐ appeal-to-ignorance
- ☒ **ad hominem**
- ☐ strawman
- ☐ ad hoc

Question 3 of 3

How can you best deal with situations in which you suspect cherry picking?

- ☒ **by asking for complete data covering the whole picture**
- ☐ by using labels for all axes
- ☐ by using an ad hominem attack
- ☐ by asking for baselines in all graphs