**CRITICAL THINKING**

Critical Thinking is the kind of thinking that will be useful to solve problems and to make decisions by applying and analysing information.

* It is thinking beyond the obvious.
* It can be what you know (knowledge), gathered (data from research and questioning) or what you see or hear (opinion).
* Critical Thinking can be learned and practiced.

**PROBLEM SOLVING**

The process of working through details of a problem to reach a solution is called as problem solving. It may include mathematical or systematic operations and can be a gauge of an individual's critical thinking skills.

**PATTERN FINDING**

Pattern Finding or Pattern Recognition is the skill or art of finding closeness and patterns in similar and dissimilar structures present in nature. It is closely associated with critical thinking and problem solving.

**Activity:**

Draw a house in 2 minutes.

---Everyone was given 2 minutes to draw a house. No instructions were given. Each one of us had different ideas and purpose for the house to serve. This activity involved critical thinking as the house should have been able to be purposeful for each and every kind of living beings. What is the house was to be used by 40 blind giraffes?

**5 step process for critical thinking problem solving and decision making**

1. **I** – Identify the problem and set priorities.
2. **D** – Deepen understanding and gather relevant information.
3. **E** – Enumerate options and anticipate consequences.
4. **A** – Assess situations, choose a strategy and decide on a direction.
5. **S** – Scrutinize the results and the process and self-connect if needed.

**How do you know if you are critically thinking?**

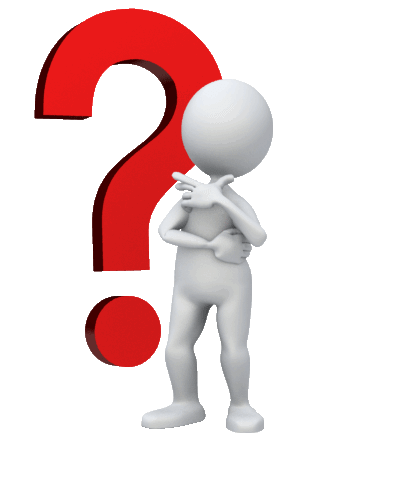
1. Clarity

* Can you elaborate?
* Can you give me an example?
* Can you be more specific?



1. Accuracy

* Is that really true?
* How can we verify that?
* Can you show me the data that supports your argument?



1. Relevance

* How is that related?
* Is it relevant for this location at this time?



1. Depth

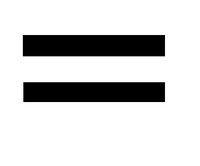
* Does it address the complexity?
* Can you give me more details?
* Has your argument been peer reviewed?

1. Breadth

* What other points of view might be missing?
* Who has offered a contrary viewpoint?

1. Logic

* How is it possible to be both X and Y?
* Do they contradict each other?
* Both do not seem possible?

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**Situation Handling:** You are the president of the college and need to send a letter to the head of management of the college for requesting them to organize an annual cultural festival as the students wants so. The management has problems associated with space, budget and behavior constraints. You need to persuade the college management.

11 th September, 2019

To,

The College Management Committee

National Institute of Technology, Raipur

Chhattisgarh

Subject – Application seeking the permission to organize an annual cultural festival.

Respected Sir,

Good morning! Hope you are doing well. This letter has been written to seek permission to have an annual cultural festival in our college. In recent times, every other college in the country has started conducting cultural fests once a year. The students wanted to have a similar event in our college as refreshment and break from studies. This plays a major role in publicity, recognition and letting others know the values of the college, staff and students.

I know we have issues related to budget, discipline and behavior. For dealing with these issues, the cultural committee is searching for alternatives. As far as the budget is concerned, I have spoken to some big firms for the sponsorship and they are ready to supply funds. The public relations and marketing team is continuously involved in bringing funds. Considering behavior and discipline, I had a word with the disciplinary committee and they have provided few valuable suggestions like having separate areas for boys and girls during events like musical concert and EDM night. Also to cope up with space constraints, the hostel wardens are ready to allow stay for students participating in the events from other colleges outside the city. For organizing the mega events and cult night we had a word with Professor S. P. Diwan of the Architecture department. He would be able to provide us the permission for conducting events in Pt. Dindayal Auditorium for a period of 2 days at nominal charges that would include only the maintenance fee and would be devoid of any booking charges.

I hope you would look into this matter and provide me your valuable suggestions. I would get back to you once you have your research and analysis done in this regard. Hope you have a proper insight into the matter.

Thank You,

Akash Kumar Singh

8 th semester, Information Technology

College President