

Critical thinking in global challenges

Week4

'Assessing arguments' part B

Hello and welcome to week 4 of Critical Thinking in Global Challenges.

Last week we learned how to assess arguments using a 5 step technique. We saw that to evaluate argument effectively, its Structure, Clarity, evidence, and the logic of the argument should be critically assessed.

The learning objective of this week is to further practice critical thinking skills and assessing arguments using this 5 step technique. As last week, we are giving you the opportunity to choose a current global challenge as a basis to apply your skills. .

This week the exercises are a bit more challenging, so don't hesitate to have a look at last week's video on assessing arguments again.

In the theme 'Obesity' with John Menzies, you will look behind the headlines of news stories on Food addiction and examine the credibility of this concept.

In the theme 'Climate change' with Richard Milne, you will investigate common fallacies used by climate change deniers. I recommend this exercise for those of you that would like to practice identifying fallacies further.

In the theme "population" with Mayank Dutia, you will explore arguments on the effects of increased population on Society.

In the theme infectious diseases with Kim Picozzi, you will critically think about, and reflect on, how approaches to understanding and controlling infectious diseases have changed in the past few years. I recommend this exercise for those of you that feel confident with critical thinking and would like to practice using these skills to reflect more deeply on concepts. It's a move from critical thinking to critical reflection.

As last week, the choice of theme is yours, you can pick one, or two, or even work on all 4 themes.

Make sure to watch the introduction videos for each theme before attempting the exercises. So Good luck and see you next week for the final week of the course!