



Critical Thinking | Student-Friendly Deep Learning Progression

Evaluating information and arguments, seeing patterns and connections, constructing meaningful knowledge, and applying it in the real world.



Dimension	 Limited Evidence	 Emerging	 Developing	 Accelerating	 Proficient
Evaluating information and arguments	I can find information on a topic using my computer or by asking an adult, but I have trouble knowing how trustworthy or useful the information is. I copy and share what I have found or heard without thinking about and trying to improve it.	I can usually find the information I need. I am starting to be able to decide if that information is true, relevant, and useful. There are some arguments that I disagree with or that don't make sense, but I have trouble explaining why I feel this way.	I can find and evaluate information easily. I can distinguish between good and bad arguments and am beginning to be able to explain why an argument does or does not make sense.	I am highly skilled at finding and evaluating information. I can explain how I evaluate information but may not always demonstrate the correct understanding of the information or argument.	I can analyze different sources of information and comment on why I am using the data I have selected. I have a clear understanding of whether information is trustworthy, relevant, and useful, and can explain my thinking to others. I only select information I know is right, clear, and adds value to what I am trying to prove, say, or do.
Making connections and identifying patterns	I understand that when learning about something, information and ideas connect (relate) to each other. I have trouble making these connections by myself.	I am beginning to understand that I can seek, access, and explore information in many different ways. I am beginning to connect what I am learning with what I already know. With help, I am able to make connections and expand my understanding.	I can connect what I know with what I learn and expand my understanding of a topic. I am able to make some difficult connections, such as across classes, cultures, periods of time, or multiple key learning areas.	I understand that looking at a topic or task from different points of view is an important part of learning. I am able to make connections between and across subject areas.	I am skilled at making connections, identifying patterns, and seeing relationships. I can use the connections I see to understand topics or themes deeply. I understand that the world is full of conflicting information and am able to decide which information is most relevant and useful.
Meaningful knowledge construction	I can find information on a topic but have trouble engaging with the information in a meaningful way. I understand what I see or hear but don't think about how to improve it.	I am beginning to be able to explore what I already know and use this as a starting point for new learning. I try to improve the information I see or hear but don't use evidence to back up my thinking.	I can use a number of strategies to find and create new knowledge and beliefs. I can evaluate information and use it to answer questions in class but usually don't make connections between subject areas.	I am able to think about topics in new and exciting ways and can explain why my new knowledge is useful. I make meaningful connections and clearly understand why they are important in my life.	I can analyze, interpret, synthesize, and evaluate information. I am skilled at looking at topics from different points of view and then creating my own opinion about them. I reflect on and evaluate how and what I learn and improve my own learning outcomes.



Critical Thinking (Cont'd) | Student-Friendly Deep Learning Progression

Evaluating information and arguments, seeing patterns and connections, constructing meaningful knowledge, and applying it in the real world.



Dimension	 Limited Evidence	 Emerging	 Developing	 Accelerating	 Proficient
Experimenting, reflecting, and taking action on ideas in the real world	I can understand the task but often don't see how it fits in with who I am and what is important to me. Sometimes, with help, I can test my ideas out in different and relevant ways.	I am beginning to learn how to experiment with different ideas and figure out what works best for a particular task. With some help, I can see how I can use what I have learned in a different subject or class or even outside school.	I can think about the impact of my ideas and design new courses of action to improve outcomes. I use what I have learned in one task to solve new or different tasks. I use techniques I learn in class to solve problems in my life and the world.	I can test and evaluate my solutions in diverse settings to find out which are most effective. I reflect on my work and can explain why it is successful and how I could apply what I learn in different situations.	I can regularly apply what I learn in different contexts, adapting and transferring my knowledge as needed. I understand how to evaluate ideas and their potential for success in new contexts.
Using technology for learning (leveraging digital)	I have difficulty in using technology to help me learn, to connect my ideas and with others.	I can use technology as a tool to produce questions, to connect, and to develop my thoughts.	I use technology to generate and explore important ideas. I can use technology to connect with others and explore ways to apply new knowledge.	I can use a variety of technologies to evaluate, generate, and explore both new and unfamiliar concepts and arguments.	I effortlessly use technology to help me think critically about issues and share and develop this thinking with others. I can clearly describe how technology enhances my ability to think critically. In new contexts, I can use technology as a tool to think and work effectively.