

Midterm – Study Guide

Introduction to Critical Thinking – Paul-Elder/Paulian Critical Thinking

→ *Best thinkers think about their thinking.*

They DO NOT take thinking for granted, or trust fate. They DO notice their thinking, reflect on their thinking, and act upon their thinking.

→ *Best thinkers are highly purposeful.*

They know why they think, know what they are about, have clear priorities and goals, and continually check themselves to assure their alignment with their goals.

→ *Best thinkers have intellectual tools they use to check the quality of their thinking.*

They know how to clearly express their thinking. Know how to check for accuracy and precision. Know how to keep focused on a question and assure it's relevant to their goals. They think beneath the surface and expand across multiple perspectives. They think logically and significantly.

→ *Best thinkers distinguish thoughts from feelings and desires.*

Wanting something to be something does not make it so. They understand others and their own feelings, but do not let emotions determine decisions. They have discovered their minds and examine the way their minds operate. They take deliberate charge of the operations.

→ *Best thinkers routinely evaluate thinking, determining its strengths and weaknesses.*

They realize that trust cannot be put into automatic evaluation of their own mind and that evaluative thinking is an art one must consciously learn. It takes knowledge of universal standards for thinking and practice in exercising control over them.

Taking control of your thinking and implementing tools for reasoning allow you to command your thinking that will command the quality of your life.

Critical Thinking – art of analyzing and evaluating thinking with a view to improving it

Results; raises vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely; gathers and assess relevant information, using abstract ideas to interpret it effectively; comes to well-reasoned conclusions and solutions, testing against relevant standards; thinks open-mindedly within alternative systems of thought, recognizing, and assessing, their assumptions, implications, and consequences; communicates effectively with others to find solutions to complex problems.

Main Thinkers

1. Naïve Thinker – doesn't care and/or isn't aware of their thinking; don't see importance to work on their thinking and don't want to develop their minds.

2. Selfish Critical Thinker – good at thinking, but unfair to others; critical thinkers use thinking to get what they want.

3. Fairminded Critical Thinker – good at thinking and fair to others; always improving thinking and make world a better place.

Weak vs. Strong Critical Thinking

Weak-sense critical thinking/sophist – they use critical thinking, but miss higher-level skills and values of CT and fails to consider multiple viewpoints; served by self-interest.

Sophistry – art of winning arguments regardless of the problems/errors that are used in the thinking and regardless of viewpoints being ignored. Lower-level skills of rhetoric (argumentation) by making unreasonable thinking look reasonable, and vice-versa.

Midterm Study Guide For Critical Thinking

Sheila Tobias, Jacqueline Raphael



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writing and naming acids and bases. Create a chart comparing and contrasting the two methods. Then, have students complete ... [section_review_19.3_19.4_19.5_answers_1.pdf](#) Acid dissociation constants for weak acids can be calculated from experimental data. ST. 15. Bases react with water to form hydroxide ions. Part C Matching. Chapter 19 textbook KEY.pdf In the following chemical reaction, identify the Lewis acid and base. $\text{BF}_3 + \text{F}^- \rightarrow \text{BF}_4^-$. (6) Describe some distinctive properties of acids. Sour, burns, electrolyte.