

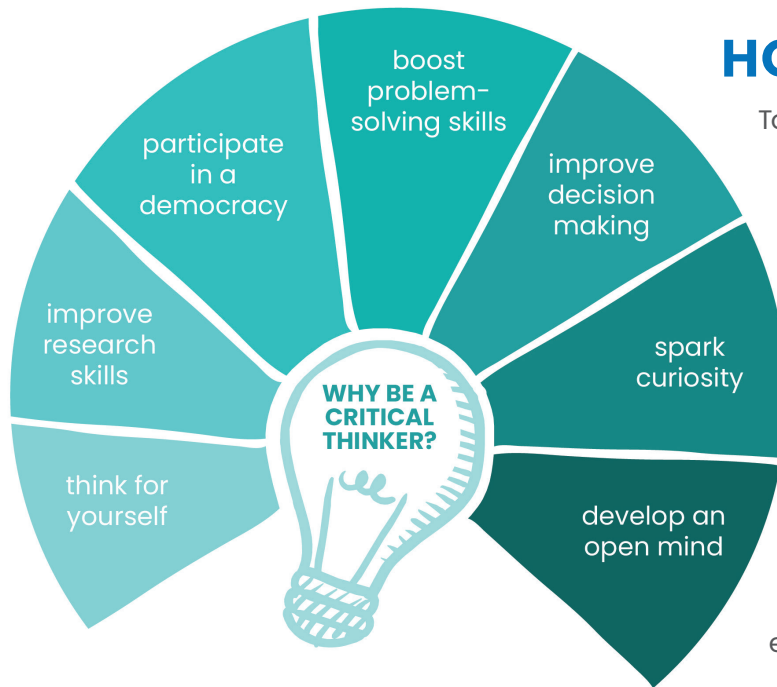
- CRITICAL THINKING -

Critical thinking happens when we ask questions about what we read, hear, say and write and develop an informed opinion about it.

It starts with understanding the information and then we question, evaluate, analyze and reflect on it to form conclusions that are backed by facts and are fair and just.

Being a critical thinker means we can keep an open mind, consider the perspectives of others (even when we don't agree) and demonstrate empathy.

HOW TO GUIDE






HOW

To be a critical thinker, we need to have a set of questions that guides us through the process each time we encounter an issue, new idea or situation. As we practice applying these questions consciously and consistently, they will become automatic. This process starts by building our awareness of how we think (metacognition) and developing the skill of asking questions such as those in the following table that encourage us to dig deeper.

STEPS TO PRACTICE THINKING CRITICALLY

1. Choose a current news event, controversy or situation where there is an identifiable problem (or students can choose their own).
2. Give students time to explore the event, controversy or situation and gather facts.
3. Give students either a copy of the fillable PDF or print the Critical Thinking Checklist and ask them to fill it out to build their awareness of what questions they are good at asking and what they might want to work on to think more critically.
4. If they tick 'YES' or 'SORT OF', ask them to prove it by writing their answer in the space provided or on a separate piece of paper.

- CRITICAL THINKING -

CRITICAL THINKING CHECKLIST	 YES	 SORT OF	 NOT YET
Did I check facts with more than one reliable source? Prove it (if yes or sort of):			
Can I identify the main problem in a situation, idea or argument? Prove it (if yes or sort of):			
Can I identify at least 2 different points of view in a situation? Prove it (if yes or sort of):			
Can I make a list of pros and cons related to the topic? Prove it (if yes or sort of):			
BONUS: Do I know my biases and prejudices related to the topic? Prove it (if yes or sort of):			