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| **The Psychology of Critical Thinking** |
| ***How Critical Thinking is an everyday survival skill!*** |
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| **Critical Thinking is a *self-directed* process** **by which we take *deliberate steps*** **to think at the *highest level* of quality.** |



**Standards of Reasoning and Questions**

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| *Test for:* | *By asking this:* |
| CLARITY | Can you give me an example?Can you elaborate?Could you illustrate what you mean? |
| ACCURACY | How could we check on that?How could we verify that? |
| PRECISION | Could you be more precise?Could you give me more details? |
| DEPTH | What factors make this a difficult problem?What are some of the difficulties we need to deal with? |
| LOGIC | Does all this make sense together?Does your first paragraph fit in with your last?Does what you say follow from the evidence?  |
| RELEVANCE | How does that help us with the issue?Hoes does that relate to the problem? |
| FAIRNESS | Am I sympathetically representing the viewpoints of others?Do I have a vested interest in this issue? |
| SIGNIFICANCE | Is this the most important problem to consider?Which of these facts are most important?Is this the central idea to focus on? |
| BREADTH | Do we need to look at this from another perspective?Do we need to look at this in other ways?  |

Egocentric Thinking

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| Innate Ego-centrism | “It’s true because I believe it” |
| Innate Socio-centrism | “It’s true because WE believe it” |
| Innate Wish Fulfilment  | “It’s true because I want to believe it” |
| Innate Self-Validation | “It’s true because I have always believed it” |
| Innate Selfishness | “It’s true because it’s in my selfish interest to believe it” |







