

SELF-ASSESSMENT: CRITICAL THINKING – EVALUATING IDEAS, ARGUMENTS AND OPTIONS

Rate yourself on each statement:

- In need of improvement
- My skills are emerging
- I'm meeting the standards
- I'm exceeding the expectations

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Category	In need of improvement	My skills are emerging	I'm meeting the standards	I'm exceeding the expectations
Judging Evidence	I rarely question the quality or reliability of evidence	I sometimes notice weaknesses in evidence but not consistently	I usually evaluate the strength and relevance of evidence	I consistently analyse and challenge evidence critically, identifying strong and weak points
Considering Alternatives	I rarely consider different viewpoints or options	I sometimes consider other perspectives but may not weigh them fairly	I usually consider different options and viewpoints before deciding	I consistently explore multiple perspectives and evaluate them thoughtfully
Making Reasoned Judgments	I struggle to explain the reasons behind my choices or conclusions	I sometimes give reasons, but they may lack depth or clarity	I usually make decisions based on clear reasoning and evidence	I consistently make well-reasoned, justified judgments and explain them clearly
Awareness of Bias	I rarely recognise bias in information or in my own thinking	I sometimes notice bias but do not always account for it	I usually recognise bias and consider its effect on arguments	I consistently identify bias in sources and reflect on my own assumptions



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Reflective questions

1. How do I decide if evidence or information is reliable?
2. When faced with different options, what process do I use to choose between them?
3. How can I better recognise my own biases when evaluating ideas?

Guidelines for action

1. Identify Strengths and Growth Areas
 - Highlight one area where you already evaluate ideas effectively.
 - Highlight one area where you can improve.
2. Set a SMART Goal
 - Example: "I will evaluate at least two different viewpoints before forming a conclusion in every class debate."
3. Choose an Action Step
 - Pick one skill to strengthen immediately (e.g., checking the reliability of sources, listing pros and cons, identifying potential bias).
4. Monitor Your Progress
 - Keep a weekly reflection: How did I evaluate evidence and options this week?
5. Seek Feedback
 - Ask a teacher, mentor, or peer about the clarity and fairness of your judgments.
6. Review and Reassess
 - After 6–8 weeks, retake the self-assessment.
 - Reflect on your progress and set a new critical thinking goal.

