

Assess your thinking skills

For each of the statements below, rate your responses as outlined below. Note that 'strongly disagree' carries no score.

4 = 'strongly agree' 3 = 'agree' 2 = 'sort of agree' 1 = 'disagree' 0 = 'strongly disagree'

Rating 4-0

1	I feel comfortable pointing out potential weaknesses in the work of experts	
2	I can remain focused on the exact requirements of an activity	
3	I know the different meanings of the word 'argument' in critical thinking	
4	I can analyse the structure of an argument	
5	I can offer criticism without feeling this makes me a bad person	
6	I know what is meant by a line of reasoning	
7	I am aware of how my current beliefs might prejudice fair consideration of an issue	
8	I am patient in identifying the line of reasoning in an argument	
9	I am good at recognising the signals used to indicate stages in an argument	
10	I find it easy to separate key points from other material	
11	I am very patient in going over the facts in order to reach an accurate view	
12	I am good at identifying unfair techniques used to persuade readers	
13	I am good at reading between the lines	
14	I find it easy to evaluate the evidence to support a point of view	
15	I usually pay attention to small details	
16	I find it easy to weigh up different points of view fairly	
17	If I am not sure about something, I will research to find out more	
18	I can present my own arguments clearly	
19	I understand how to structure an argument	
20	I can tell descriptive writing from analytical writing	
21	I can spot inconsistencies in an argument easily	
22	I am good at identifying patterns	
23	I am aware of how my own up-bringing might prejudice fair consideration of an issue	
24	I know how to evaluate source materials	
25	I understand why ambiguous language is often used in research papers	

Score out of 100

Interpreting your score

Going through the questionnaire may have raised some questions about what you know or don't know about critical thinking. The lower the score, the more likely you are to need to develop your critical thinking skills. A score over 75 suggests you are very confident about your critical thinking ability. It is worth checking this against objective feedback such as from your tutors or colleagues. If your score is less than 100, there is still room for improvement! If your score is under 45 and remains so after completing the Critical thinking skills module, you may find it helpful to speak to an academic counsellor, your tutor or a supervisor to root out the difficulty.