

**Promoting the academic performance of
Ukrainian university students: Effective
approaches to improve
learning and academic performance of
Ukrainian university students**

LESSON 4

***DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING AND
ANALYTICAL SKILLS IN ACADEMIC WORK***

Perceptions of Inclusion, well-being and Identiflcation with
the European Union in Ukrainian university students



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The Importance of Critical Thinking in University

- Supports informed academic decision-making
- Enhances the quality of arguments and discussions
- Reduces vulnerability to misinformation
- Strengthens independent thinking





Critical Thinking vs. Criticism

- Critical thinking means objective evaluation
- Focuses on ideas, not individuals
- Requires evidence-based reasoning
- Encourages open-minded analysis



Verifying Information in Academic Contexts



- Question the credibility of online sources
- Compare multiple perspectives
- Check evidence before accepting claims
- Distinguish fact from opinion

Principles of Critical Thinking and Key Analytical Skills

- Apply structured reasoning in academic tasks
- Evaluate arguments systematically
- Examine assumptions and implications
- Analyze cause-effect relationships



Clarity, Logic, Relevance, Depth



- Clarity – formulate precise questions and answers
- Logic – ensure coherent argument structure
- Relevance – focus on essential information
- Depth – explore multiple perspectives



Identifying Reasoning Errors and Biases

- Recognize flawed arguments
- Detect emotional manipulation
- Question unsupported generalizations
- Evaluate the strength of evidence



Hasty Generalizations and Ad Hominem




- Avoid broad conclusions from limited examples
- Focus on arguments, not personal attacks
- Separate ideas from individuals
- Base conclusions on sufficient data





Appeal to Authority and Emotional Appeals

- Do not accept claims without verification
 - Evaluate expertise and supporting evidence
 - Distinguish emotion from logical reasoning
 - Prioritize facts over persuasion
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Practical Methods to Develop Critical Thinking

- Use structured questioning techniques
- Analyze problems from multiple angles
- Engage in evidence-based discussions
- Practice systematic evaluation

The 5 Whys Method



- Ask “Why?” repeatedly to identify root causes
- Move beyond superficial explanations
- Clarify underlying assumptions
- Improve problem-solving accuracy



SWOT Analysis in Academic Context

- Identify strengths and weaknesses
- Evaluate opportunities and risks
- Apply structured analysis to decisions
- Support strategic academic planning



Academic Debates and Counter-Argumentation

- Formulate clear and logical arguments
- Anticipate opposing viewpoints
- Support claims with evidence
- Respond respectfully to counter-arguments

Critical Reading of Academic Texts



- Identify hypotheses and main claims
- Examine supporting evidence
- Analyze methodology and conclusions
- Question limitations and assumptions



Integrating Critical Thinking into Academic Writing



- Develop thesis statements based on analysis
- Support arguments with credible sources
- Address counter-arguments clearly
- Maintain logical structure



Developing Analytical Problem-Solving Skills

- Break complex problems into components
- Identify patterns and relationships
- Compare alternative solutions
- Justify final decisions logically





Thank you

Any Question?

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