



# Teaching for Critical & Creative Thinking

Students engage in critical thinking when they:

- A. seek a clear statement of the problem or question.
- B. gather, judge and connect relevant information in order to be well informed.
- C. monitor their own thinking and progress.
- D. withhold judgment.
- E. are open-minded.
- F. identify and challenge assumptions.
- G. consider other points-of-view.
- H. seek alternatives.
- I. detect bias.
- J. identify verifiable facts, opinions and reasoned judgments.
- K. determine the factual accuracy and strength of an argument or claim.
- L. determine the credibility of a source.
- M. are honest and sensitive with others.
- N. deal with ambiguity.
- O. strive for precision, definition and clarity.
- P. remain central to the main point.
- Q. suspend judgment when sufficient evidence and reasoning are lacking.
- R. support their positions with sufficient evidence and reasons.
- S. change a position when evidence and reasons are sufficient to do so.

Students engage in creative thinking when they:

- A. generate many ideas.
- B. seek alternative solutions to a problem situation.
- C. come up with unusual or innovative responses.
- D. go beyond the ordinary and obvious.
- E. expand or elaborate upon an idea.
- F. take conceptual risks and expose themselves to failure or criticism.
- G. make connections between things.
- H. dream, fantasize and visualize mental images.
- I. point out gaps in information given.
- J. create order out of chaos.
- K. are inquisitive.
- L. persist with a problem where others may give up.
- M. plan and develop an idea before committing it to materials.
- N. work at the edge of their potential.
- O. rely on their inner-self rather than others to determine the worth of their work.
- P. reframe a problem in order to develop new points-of-view.
- Q. get away from an idea in order to put it in perspective.
- R. predict possible outcomes without complete information.