



Lesson Plan: Self-evaluating Critical Thinking skills for writing

Age group: Adult learners Life Competency: Critical Thinking Language focus: Language of criticality

Aim: This task aims to equip learners with the ability to judge arguments and evaluate propositions. The task develops critical writing skills, which encourage learners to:

- recognise problems, issues and limitations,
- question and evaluate assumptions, and evaluate arguments and ideas.

Step 1:

Learners brainstorm what it means to write critically. You can share this on the screen in a word cloud, for example.

Step 2:

Learners reflect on their critical writing skills. They may need prompts such as the following:

- Do I create a logical structure for my account, to help me develop my argument and to help the reader to follow it?
- Do I avoid making sweeping generalisations?
- Do I make explicit the values guiding what I write?

These guiding questions can be useful to help learners self-evaluate their writing practices and identify where they need to improve their Critical Thinking.

Step 3:

Get learners to vote on how many of the above writing processes they undertake and decide the one with which they are least likely to engage.

Step 4:

Learners then write a text specifically aiming to write critically, with a focus on the critical writing process they identified in Step 3. For example, they may focus on avoiding generalisation in their writing by ensuring that they evaluate their own arguments.

Step 5:

Get learners to reflect on what their critical writing has shown them and what strategies they have used to avoid generalisation.









For support whilst teaching this lesson, refer to either the <u>Adult Learners</u> or <u>Critical</u> <u>Thinking</u> booklet, from the <u>Cambridge Life Competencies Framework</u>.

