

An Investigation on the Importance of Critical Thinking for Skill Development to Enhance the Effectiveness of the Learning Process

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Abstract: *The prominence of Critical Thinking is increasing in both educational and professional environments. Performing a query for "Critical thinking" on a widely used internet search engine will yield more than 65 million outcomes. Several research investigations have shown that critical thinking, while being an essential skill, is lacking in a substantial majority of students and professionals. Nevertheless, critical thinking can function as a beneficial instrument for cultivating aptitudes such as deductive reasoning, discernment, decision-making, troubleshooting, and analytical skills. This study explored the importance of critical thinking skills in the context of skill development, specifically in the field of education. Developing the ability to participate in critical thinking is an essential element of modern educational methods and models. The objective of this study is to establish a framework for comprehending the concept of critical thinking within the context of education. Teachers often utilize the term "critical thinking" in educational environments. Critical thinking, often known as "the art of thinking about thinking" (Ruggiero, V.R., 2012), seeks to improve an individual's cognitive capacities. The objective is to create educational environments that promote the development of critical thinking, both within and outside of the classroom, in order to facilitate the acquisition of essential skills. By teaching and actively engaging in the practice of critical thinking skills, teachers have the ability to confidently seize the chance and assume control over their own learning. Students who utilize critical thinking abilities are more likely to actively and effectively interact with the course material. They pose more demanding inquiries and actively engage in the learning process..*

Keywords: Critical thinking, education, teaching – learning process, skills development, cognitive abilities