How Do I Get Them to Think?

Critical Thinking Institute
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Game Plan

- Consider Elements, Standards and Intellectual Traits identified by Paul and Elder
- Ten Strategies to Teach for Critical Thinking
The active and systematic process of communication, problem solving, evaluation, analysis, synthesis, and reflection, both individually and in community, to foster understanding, support sound decision-making, and guide action.
Paul and Elder:
The underlying Principles of Critical Thinking
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**The Underlying Principles of Critical Thinking**

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<tr>
<th>Essential Intellectual Standards</th>
<th>Must Be Applied to</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clarity</td>
<td>Precision</td>
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<td>Relevance</td>
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<td>Breadth</td>
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**The Elements of Reasoning**

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**Intellectual Traits**

- Humility
- Perseverance
- Autonomy
- Integrity
- Courage
- Empathy
- Fair-mindedness
- Confidence in reasoning
The essential question...

- What do we need to do as educators to encourage critical thinking?
Top 10 strategies to teach for Critical Thinking
1. Create a safe environment
2. Get students to know each other
3. Assign reading to be done outside of class
4. Conduct five minute quiz at the beginning of each class on assignment.
5. Lecture no more than 20% of the total class time
6. Involve all students in discussions
7. Ask Essential Questions
8. Employ Socratic questioning
9. Ask students to write the logic of an article or paragraph or chapter in the text.
10. Relate the current topic or course to the whole (system, discipline)
What’s Next?


References


Nosich, G. “Facilitating Critical and Creative Thinking.” A QEP workshop for Eastern Kentucky University presented on 9-10 March 2006 at Richmond, KY.


