

Critical Thinking Assessment Grid AAU

	1 - Not sufficient If applicable, consistently does all or almost all of the following	2	3 - Average If applicable, consistently does most or many of the following	4	5 - Very good If applicable, consistently does all or almost all of the following
Key Question, Problem, or Issue	Fails to clearly define the issue or problem; does not recognize the core issues		Defines the issue; identifies the core issues, but may not fully explore their depth and breadth		Clearly defines the issue or problem; accurately identifies the core issues Appreciates depth and breadth of problem
Objectivity	Ignores or superficially evaluates alternate points of view Cannot separate own vested interests and feelings when evaluating other points of view Fails to maintain a fair-minded approach toward the problem Fails to identify or hastily dismisses strong, relevant counter-arguments		Identifies and evaluates some relevant points of view, may focus on irrelevant or insignificant points of view Has some trouble being fair in examining those views Has some trouble maintaining a fair-minded approach toward the problem Includes some information from opposing views		Identifies and evaluates relevant significant points of view Is empathetic, fair in examining all relevant points of view Demonstrates fair-mindedness toward problem Includes information that opposes as well as supports the argued position
Information	Relies on insufficient, irrelevant, or unreliable information Confuses information and inferences drawn from that information		Gathers some sufficient, credible, and relevant information Sometimes confuses information and inferences drawn from it		Gathers sufficient, credible, relevant information: observations, statements, data, facts, etc. Distinguishes between information and inferences drawn from that information
Theories and Concepts	Misunderstands key concepts or ignores relevant key concepts altogether, alters concepts throughout the work		Identifies and accurately explains and uses the key concepts, but not with necessary depth and precision Sometimes fails to maintain conceptual clarity throughout the work		Identifies and accurately explains/uses the relevant key concepts Maintains conceptual clarity throughout the work
Assumptions	Fails to identify assumptions Makes invalid assumptions		Identifies assumptions Makes valid assumptions		Accurately identifies assumptions (things taken for granted) and limits of one's point of view Makes assumptions that are consistent, reasonable, valid
Analysis	Uses superficial, simplistic, or irrelevant reasons and unjustifiable claims and makes illogical or inconsistent conclusions		Mostly follows where evidence and reason lead to obtain justifiable, logical conclusions		Follows where evidence and reason lead in order to obtain defensible, thoughtful, logical and consistent conclusions
Implications, Consequences	Ignores significant implications and consequences of reasoning		Identifies some significant implications and consequences and distinguishes probable from improbable implications, but not with the necessary insight and precision		Identifies the most significant implications and consequences of the reasoning (whether positive and/or negative) Distinguishes probable from improbable implications