



INSIDE TRACK

CRITICAL THINKING & ANALYSIS

MARY DEANE & ERIK BORG

CRITICAL THINKING AND ANALYSIS

Inside Track to Critical Thinking and Analysis

Table of Contents

Cover

Critical thinking and analysis

Brief Contents

Contents

Preface

Introduction

About the authors

Acknowledgements

Reading

 Everyday critical thinking

 Introduction

 What is critical thinking?

 Definitions

 Key elements in critical thinking

 Critical thinking in daily life

 Asking questions

 Asking the right questions

 Scepticism

 Critical thinking in an academic context

 The demands of academia

 Critical thinking is not the same as criticising

 Critical thinking as your contribution

 Summary

Table of Contents

References

Joining a conversation

Introduction

Reading for references

References in a sample article

Quiz

Examining references

Noticing the names

Noticing the dates

Putting the information together

Moving forward

The SQ3R technique for reading efficiently

Summary

Reference

Building on scholarship

Introduction

Who me? building on scholarship

Reading and action

Mind the gap

Student writers

Thinking outside the box

Students knowledge

Too descriptive!

Examples of critical thinking

Sample assignment 1

Sample assignment 2

Sample assignment 3

Where do you stand? stance in academic writing

Sample assignment 4

Summary

References

Table of Contents

Planning

Components of critical thinking

Introduction

Components of critical thinking in academia

Connections

Reflectivity

Independence

Time Management

Intellectual Development

Context

Analysis

Long-term planning

Summary

A strategy for analysis

Introduction

Generating disciplinary knowledge

Using your judgement in academia

Descartes critical thinking method

Errors of understanding

Errors of academic practice

Applications of descartes theories

Doubt Everything

Examine other peoples ideas

Scepticism is useful

Critique your own ideas

Analyse texts

Revise your writing

Talk about your ideas

Edit your writing

See beyond the surface level

Summary

References

Table of Contents

Writing

Preparing to write

- Introduction

- Academic assignments

- Analysing a task

- Locating and selecting sources

- Previewing sources

 - Skimming

 - Scanning

- Writing and disciplinary specificity

- Conducting research

 - Why read journal articles to inform your writing?

 - Why persevere?

 - The structure of different journal articles

 - Referencing sources

- Summary

Scholarly writing

- Introduction

- Journal article abstracts

- Key features of abstracts

- Key features of articles

- Analysis of a sample article

 - Introduction

 - Literature review

 - Method

 - Limitations

 - Discussion

 - Results

 - Conclusion

 - To sum up

- Summary

Table of Contents

References

Reflection

Reflective critical thinking

Introduction

Four steps to help your thinking

1 look at your questions

2 do not be closed-minded

3 clarify your thinking

4 stick to the point

Summary

References

Your career

Introduction

Transferable critical thinking skills

Reflectivity

Independence

Connections

Criticality and your career

The job description

Reading the job description critically

Reading the person specification critically

Relating the person specification to yourself

Your career ambitions

Skills

Knowledge

Experience

Summary

References

Conclusion

Reading

Planning

Table of Contents

Writing

Reflection

Summary

References

Index