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# SOFT SKILLS 1

# CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING

by  
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# AIM

- This chapter outlines the principles of critical thinking & problem solving skills and provides exercises on applying the skills in given situations

# EXPECTED OUTCOME

At the end of the session students should be able to:

- Know the concept of CTPS & related tools
- Able to adapt and apply CTPS skills
- conquer challenges with clear Judgment

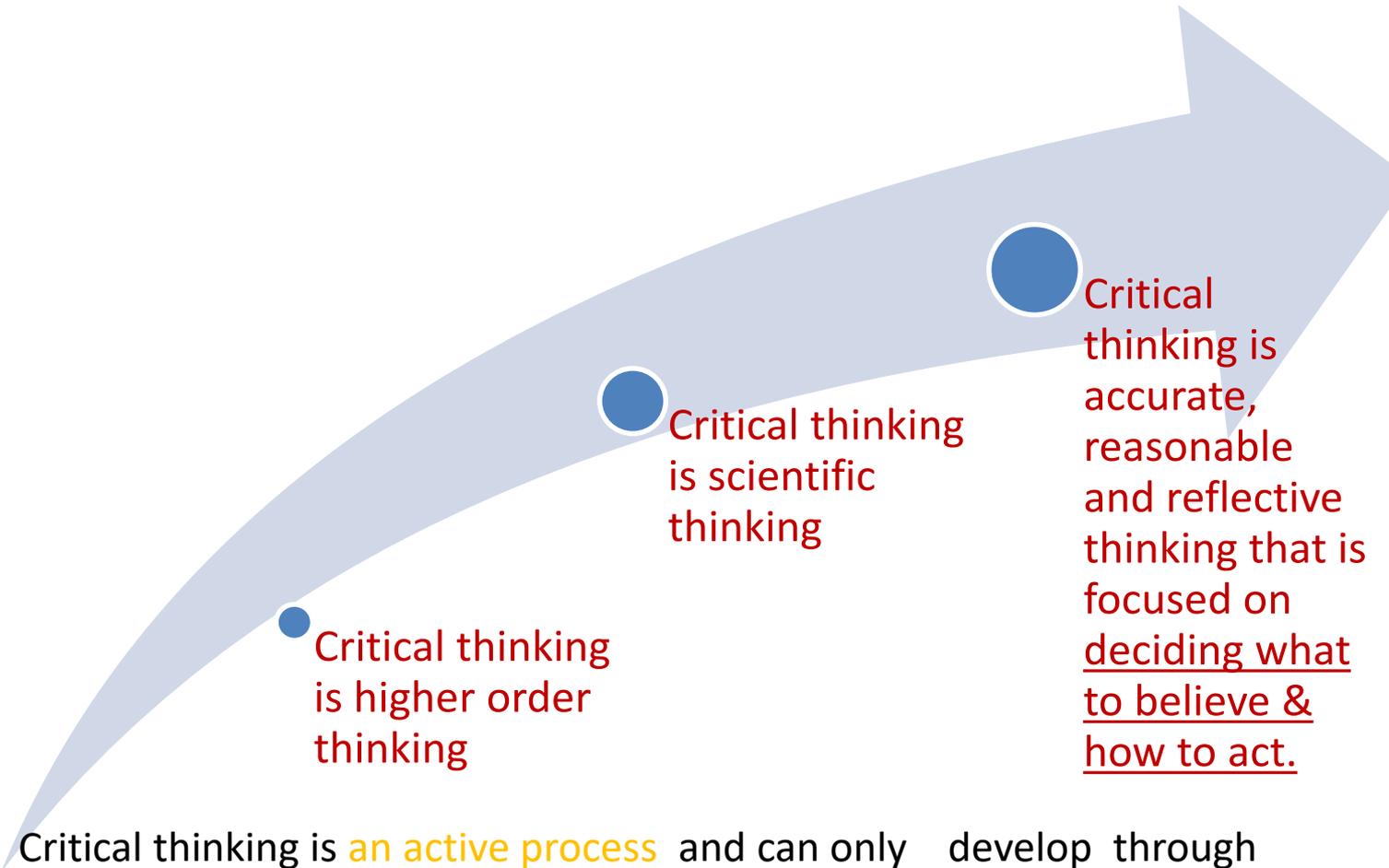
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# Topic Outlines

- Defining critical thinking
- Characteristics of a problem solver
- Characteristics of a critical thinker

# What is critical thinking?



Critical thinking is higher order thinking

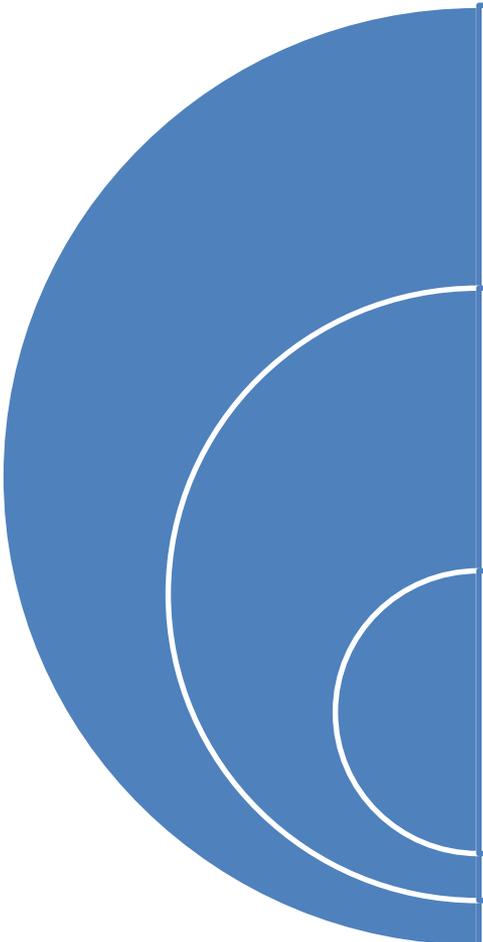
Critical thinking is scientific thinking

Critical thinking is accurate, reasonable and reflective thinking that is focused on deciding what to believe & how to act.

Critical thinking is a general term that covers all thinking processes that **strive to get beneath the surface/beyond what you can see**

Critical thinking is **an active process** and can only develop through continuous exercises

# Characteristics of a critical thinker



## Inquisitiveness

- Ask questions
- Identify problems
- Gather relevant information

## Investigative

- Observe well justified conclusion
- Research minded

## Ingeniousness

- Open to alternative thought
- Communicate effectively

## Creative thinking

- aesthetic creativity
- related to artistic creation (i.e., poem etc)

## Critical thinking

- cognitive creativity
- involved in solving problems

Scholars (Scriven & Paul (1992)); divided creativity into two categories: ecstatic and cognitive

# Conclusion of The Chapter

- Critical thinking includes possible process of reflecting upon a tangible or intangible item in order to form solid judgments that combine scientific evidence with common sense. Using critical thinking, one makes a decision to judge what to believe or what to do to overcome issues and hindrances in life (Folkways, 1906).



# Author Information

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