Critical Thinking & Intelectual Traits

Critical thinking means correct thinking in the pursuit of relevant and reliable knowledge about the world.

Another way to describe CT ; it is reasonable, reflective, responsible, and skillful thinking that is focused on deciding what to believe or do.(Schafersman.1991)

Certainly , a person who thinks critically …

- Is supposed to be of an outstanding ability to ask appropriate questions,
- A very efficient researcher for relevant information, however it is not enough, because only a   critical thinker can creatively sort through this information and

- Can reason logically from this information, and
- Can reach reliable and trustworthy conclusions about the world .

As such , a critical thinker can understand the world , live and act successfully in it .

Critical thinking is not being able to process information well enough to react correctly to daily common sense issues that are part of low order thinking, though they appear to be somehow critical and useful , yet they do not go beyond personal needs for survival .

Supposedly all humans are relatively able to master this skills .

Hence,

True critical thinking is higher-order thinking, that enables an individual to be a responsible citizen who contributes to society, and not be merely a consumer of society's distractions.

Is critical thinking innate or aquired?
Are all humans critical thinkers?

No one is born with the power to think critically, nor does he develop this ability naturally beyond survival-level thinking.

Critical thinking is a learned ability that must be taught. Most individuals never experience learning critical thinking.

However, not all parents and neither peers in general can teach critical thinking to one another , but

Only well Trained and knowledgeable teachers can lead learners to proper information and skills.

Critical Thinking : Individual Potential & Society Limitations

Critical thinkers have an ability to think for themselves   and are able to turn their thinking into reliable and responsible decisions that in turn will affect their lives.

It is a capacity of critical inquire that prompts individuals to investigate problems   and ask questions , propose answers   that challenge the status quo,   question   the burden of authorities and traditional beliefs , reject dogmas and doctrines   and often   succeed to wrestle power in society .

However , not all societies tolerate critical thinking , but only free, workable and thinking societies do.

Some cultures sometimes discourage critical thinkers and any sort of learning, internalizing, and practicing scientific and critical thinking is not welcome .

Most people tend to   be mainstream submissive to authorities most never question, not are curious, and do not challenge authority figures who claim special knowledge or insight. Most people, therefore, do not think for themselves,

But

tend rely on others to think for them they indulge in wishful, hopeful, and emotional thinking, believing that what they believe is true because they wish it, hope it, or feel it to be true.

Critical Thinking and its Components

People are daily challenged with everlasting problems that have to solve or to cope with critical thinking skills are to be labeled as problem solving skills that result in reliable knowledge.

We all process information daily , but only critical thinkers do process information skillfully , accurately, and rigorously…

and they are the ones that reach reliable , logical and trustworthy conclusions upon which they can act or react knowledgeably and predict what their decisions might ensue.