

DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Sh.U.Yuvashov

*Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Pedagogical Sciences,
Associate Professor of the Department of Social Sciences at NamMKI.
e-mail: yuvashovsherzod@mail.uz tel: (+998972503024)*

Abstract: This article discusses the effective use of critical approaches, interactive methods, and new pedagogical research, improving individual's lives through new ideas, connecting people, and opportunities in students, that is bringing them into harmony is talked about.

Keywords: Critical thinking, creativity, imagination, ability, innovation, empathy, feminist theory, thinking, skill

To develop creativity in a person, one must communicate with creative individuals and constantly seek new experiences. Just as any skill can be developed, the ability or skill of creative thinking can also be cultivated. This helps students think unconventionally. Research by D.Wechler, A.Maslow, Joe Paul Guilford, and E.P.Torrance serves as a guide for developing creative thinking skills. It includes elements such as the classroom environment, the development of student's thinking style, and the teacher's approaches and strategies.

Critical Thinking: Refers to a system of reasoning that allows for the analysis of object phenomena with logical conclusions, providing evaluations and interpretations, applying obtained results to various situations and problem. In general terms, critical thinking implies a higher level of thinking than pre-critical thought. It is the ability to question incoming information, including one's own thought. It is believed that the transition to critical thinking is a necessary condition for the civil development of a society.

In a narrow sense, critical thinking means 'correct evolution of reasoning'. It is also described as 'thinking about thinking'. 'One of the most common definitions is 'Rational thinking aimed at deciding what to believe and skillfully analyzing, conceptualizing, applying, synthesizing, or evaluating information obtained or generated from observation, experience, reasoning, or communication, as a basis for believe and action.

The term "Critical thinking" is traced back to philosopher JOHN DIUWE. He used to term as "Reflective thinking" which he defined as "The active, Persistent, and careful consideration of any belief or supposed form of knowledge in the light of the grounds that support it and the further conclusion to which it tends".

The further clarify what critical thinking is, Richard Paul suggested dividing it into strong and weak forms. He described weak critical thinking as the self-serving motivation of a highly skilled but self-absorbed pseudo-intellectual, who does not seriously consider the moral consequences of their action. Such individuals are often highly knowledgeable but use their knowledge for unjust and selfish purposes.

On the other hand, strong critical thinking is the objective examination of problems without egocentric or sociocentric biases. Modern researchers of critical thinking have expanded traditional definitions by incorporating qualities such as creativity, imagination, discovery, reflection, empathy, knowledge integration, feminist theory, subjectivity, and ambiguity. Some definition of critical thinking exclude these subjective practices.

What is done to foster critical thinking? It might be more accurate to ask what is not done to foster critical thinking. Avoiding critical thinking as if it were a boogeymen should not be an option, as this only exacerbates problems. Instead, superficial examination and resolution of problems should be avoided. By getting to the root of the issue, it is possible to address it comprehensively.

Critical thinking develops through the continuous analysis and research of information from books and the internet. When analyzing texts, it relies on facts, evidence, and logical reasoning. This helps establish a person's attitude toward the issue. It is essential to refer to alternative sources when solving any problem. Critical thinking aimed at sincerely overcoming obstacles to the truth. Psychologist Diane F. Halpern defines it as the use of cognitive strategies that increase the likelihood achieving the desired outcome, characterized by control, justification, and goal relevance.

These strategies are used in problem-solving, expressing conclusion, probabilistic assessment, and making decisions, requiring skill appropriate and effective for specific situations and problem types.

Theories and research in learning sciences are applied to teach students critical thinking skills necessary for success in today's world. The next identifies, defines, discusses, and deconstructs modern issues of critical thinking, from fake news and alternative facts to misinformation, disinformation, and the post-truth era. It guides students through the explosion of content on the internet and social media, enabling them to be careful and critically evaluate consumers.

Creativity and Innovation are increasingly recognized as essential skills for workplace achievement and success in life worldwide. Innovation are crucial for an organization's operation and survival in the markets. Changes in technology, globalization, and intensified competition create an environment where creativity and innovations are needed to withstand pressures and adapt to frequent changes. Hence, designer and developer of organizational system must constantly innovate to adopt the organization to such changes.

Creating new and creative ideas is now the key to innovation and growth in every organization. Providing employees with creative thinking tools has proven to increase innovation in organizations. Research shows that organizations that establish the basics and tools for creativity outperform competitors in revenue, new product development, innovation, and growth. Although many creative processes involve group dynamics, less research has targeted individual factors influencing creativity. The many issues that arise when striving for creativity within teams remain underexplored, making it vital to prioritize team creativity in organizational studies.

Creativity often brings meaning to life, adding an extra element that makes ordinary things interesting and brings new approaches to everyday experience. Interest in creativity spans

various disciplines, including psychology, business research, cognitive sciences, engineering, technology, and mathematics. These fields explore relationships between creativity, general intelligence, personality types, mental and cognitive processes, mental health, artificial intelligence; potential for developing creativity through education, leadership, and organizational practices; factors influencing how creativity is assessed and perceived; and the role of creativity in achieving national economic interests.

Creative approaches and achievements have propelled human civilization across various field globally, from science and technology to philosophy, art, and the humanities. Hence, creative thinking is more than just generating random ideas. It is a practical skill based on knowledge and experience that allows a person to achieve a better results, sometimes in complex situation. Around the world, societies and organizations increasingly need innovative knowledge and creativity to solve problem(Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development) which in turn further strengthens the importance of innovation and creative thinking, which is a inherently a collaborative effort.

The main task of education is to form skills in students that will be needed today and in the future for a successful life in society. Creative thinking is an essential skill that today's youth need to possess.

This skill helps them adopt to a rapidly and continuously changing world, requiring workers with '21-century'skills beyond simple literacy. Overall, today's students are expected to work. In field that do not yet even exist, solving new problems using new technologies. Developing creative thinking skills in students enables them to solve increasingly complex local and global problems through unconventional approaches.

Additionally, creative thinking supports students' learning by interpreting events, experiences, and actions in a new and personally meaningful way. Students' imagination and curiosity are beneficial in the learning process: thus, creative thinking become a means of mutual agreement, even within the context of predetermined educational goals. To increase students' motivation and interests in school, new forms of education that take into account all students' creative potential and enthusiasm need to be implemented. This can especially help students who are not very interested in the educational process, allowing them to express their thoughts and unlock their potential.

Like any other skill, creative thinking can also be developed through a practical and targeted approach. Some teachers may feel that developing student's critical thinking comes at the expense of other subjects in the curriculum. In fact, students can think creatively in all subjects. Creative thinking can be developed through approaches that support research and invention instead of rote memorization during lessons aimed at imparting knowledge.

Teachers should be able to identify creative thinking, know the condition conducive to such thinking, and understand how to help students think more creatively. A better understanding of how creative thinking emerges helps teachers realize that the 'incubation' of creative ideas in students during the learning process requires a certain amount of time.



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