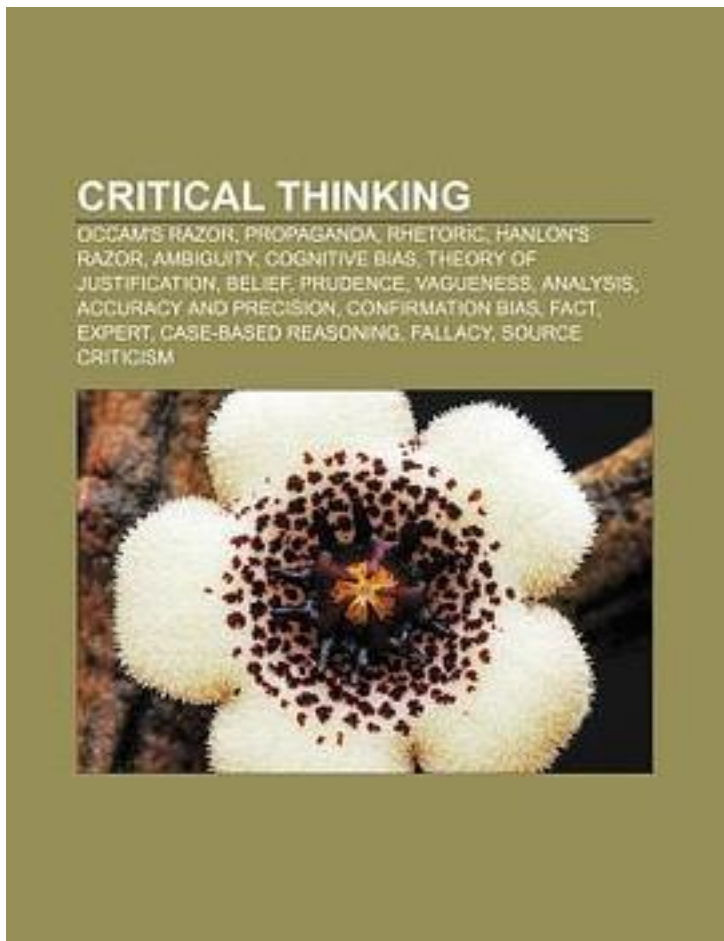


# Critical Thinking



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Critical Thinking is about becoming a better thinker in every aspect of your life: in your career, and as a consumer, citizen, friend, parent, and lover. Discover the core skills of effective thinking; then analyze your own thought processes, identify weaknesses, and

overcome them. Learn how to translate more effective thinking into better decisions, less frustration, more wealth and above all, greater confidence to pursue and achieve your most important goals in life.

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Appeal to Experience

Appeal to Fear

Appeal to Pity (or sympathy)

Appeal to Popular Passions

Appeal to Tradition or Faith ( “the tried and true” )

Assume a Posture of Righteousness

Attack the person (and not the argument)

Beg the Question

Call for Perfection (Demand impossible conditions)

Create a False Dilemma (the Great Either/Or)

Devise Analogies (and Metaphors) That Support Your View (even if they are misleading or “false” ).

Question Your Opponent’ s Conclusions

Create Misgivings: Where There’ s Smoke, There’ s Fire

Create A Straw Man

Deny or Defend Your Inconsistencies

Demonize His Side Sanitize Yours

Evade Questions, Gracefully

Flatter Your Audience

Hedge What You Say

Ignore the Evidence

Ignore the Main Point

Attack Evidence (That Undermines Your Case)

Insist Loudly on a Minor Point Use the Hard-Cruel-World Argument (to justify doing what is usually considered unethical).

Make (Sweeping) Glittering Generalizations

Make Much of Any Inconsistencies in Your Opponent’ s Position

Make Your Opponent Look Ridiculous ( “Lost in the Laugh” )

Oversimplify the Issue

Raise Nothing But Objections

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Seek Your Vested Interests

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Spin, Spin, Spin

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