



Professional reconversion to ensure a better professional future

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HANDS-ON LEARNING ACTIVITIES BOOKLET: Critical Thinking



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Information

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Index

4.2 Critical thinking	4
Activity 1	4
Activity 2	5

4.2 Critical thinking

Activity 1

Activity title	Analysing News Articles
Topic	Analysing News Articles
Aim	This activity aims to develop critical thinking skills in adults by analysing and evaluating news articles.
Target group	Adult learners
Duration	45 minutes
Objective/ Learning objectives	Exercise skills in analysing, evaluating, and synthesising information from a variety of sources and points of view to make sound decisions.
Needed materials	Articles, Flipchart or whiteboard, Pens or markers, Sticky notes or small pieces of paper.
Steps for implementation	Introduction (5 minutes): - Explain the importance of critical thinking in evaluating information, particularly in the context of news articles. - Discuss the prevalence of misinformation and the need for critical analysis to discern reliable sources. News Article Selection (10 minutes): - Provide participants with a selection of news articles from reputable sources covering diverse topics. - Ensure the articles present differing viewpoints or controversial subjects. Individual Reading and Analysis (15 minutes):

	a. Instruct participants to individually read and critically analyse the news articles. b. Encourage them to question the author's perspective, identify biases, and evaluate the evidence provided. Group Discussion (20 minutes): a. Divide participants into small groups and ask them to discuss their analysis of the articles. b. Encourage participants to share their interpretations, ask clarifying questions, and challenge each other's viewpoints. c. Emphasise the importance of evidence-based reasoning and respectful debate. Group Presentations (15 minutes): a. Ask each group to summarise their analysis and present their findings to the entire class. b. Facilitate a discussion where participants can compare their interpretations and critically evaluate the articles as a collective.
Method	Cooperation, open discussion, data analysis
Evaluation (questions)	Reflection and Application (10 minutes): a. Engage participants in a reflective discussion on the activity. b. Encourage them to consider how they can apply critical thinking skills when consuming news in their daily lives. c. Discuss strategies for verifying information, identifying biases, and seeking multiple perspectives.
Links/ References	https://lo.unisa.edu.au/pluginfile.php/1687773/mod_resource/content/1/Critically%20analysing%20a%20news%20article_2022.pdf https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/socstud/foundation_gr9/blms/9-1-1f.pdf

Activity 2

Activity title	Remote Work Pros and Cons Analysis
Topic	Remote Work Pros and Cons Analysis

Aim	This activity aims to develop critical thinking skills in adults by analysing the pros and cons of remote work.
Target group	Adult learners
Duration	45 minutes
Objective/ Learning objectives	Exercise skills in analysing, evaluating, and synthesising information from a variety of sources and points of view to make sound decisions.
Needed materials	Articles, Flipchart or whiteboard, Pens or markers, Sticky notes or small pieces of paper.
Steps for implementation	Introduction (5 minutes): - Discuss the increasing prevalence of remote work and its impact on professionals. - Explain the importance of critical thinking in evaluating the advantages and disadvantages of remote work. Pros and Cons Brainstorming (15 minutes): - Divide participants into small groups. - Assign each group either the task of listing pros or cons of remote work. - Instruct participants to brainstorm and write down as many points as possible within a specified time limit. - Encourage participants to consider various aspects, such as work-life balance, productivity, communication, and personal well-being. Group Discussion and Analysis (20 minutes): - Ask each group to share their list of pros or cons with the entire class. - Facilitate a discussion where participants critically evaluate the points raised, challenge assumptions, and explore different perspectives. - Encourage respectful debate and the consideration of real-life examples or personal experiences. Critical Analysis (20 minutes): - Instruct participants to individually analyse and evaluate the points raised during the discussion. - Encourage them to consider the validity and relevance of each point, as well as the potential impact on their own work situations. - Emphasise the need for evidence-based reasoning and critical evaluation.

	Group Presentation and Reflection (15 minutes): - Ask each group to present their critical analysis of the pros and cons of remote work. - Facilitate a reflective discussion where participants share their thoughts, challenges encountered during the analysis, and any changes in perspective.
Method	Cooperation, open discussion, data analysis
Evaluation (questions)	Reflection and Application (10 minutes): - Engage participants in a reflective discussion on the activity. - Encourage them to consider how they can apply critical thinking skills when considering remote work opportunities.
Links/ References	https://kissflow.com/digital-workplace/remote-work/pros-and-cons-of-working-remotely/ https://www.proofhub.com/articles/pros-and-cons-of-working-remotely



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