**Katrina Cruz**

**HUM-115**

**January 16,2024**

**What is Critical Thinking?**

1. “Critical thinking is the intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and/or evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication, as a guide to belief and action.”

*What is critical thinking?*. What is Critical Thinking? - University of Louisville Ideas To Action. (n.d.). https://louisville.edu/ideastoaction/about/criticalthinking/what

1. “the act or practice of thinking [critically](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/critical) (as by applying reason and questioning assumptions) in order to solve problems, evaluate information, discern biases, etc.”

Merriam-Webster. (n.d.). *Critical thinking definition & meaning*. Merriam-Webster. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/critical%20thinking

1. “the [process](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/process) of [thinking](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/thinking) [carefully](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/carefully) about a [subject](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/subject) or [idea](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/idea), without [allowing](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/allow) [feelings](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/feeling) or [opinions](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/opinion) to [affect](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/affect) you”

Critical thinking definition | cambridge english dictionary. (n.d.). https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/critical-thinking

Critical thinking can be applied in many different contexts while maintaining its same meaning because it is essential for daily tasks and is used for a variety of goals. The three definitions I selected, in my opinion, effectively demonstrate how critical thinking is the same idea applied to an assortment of fields and disciplines. I would define critical thinking as applying your background knowledge and the facts and information you have been provided to examine and consider the situation more deeply in order to reach a conclusion. Critical thinking can be demonstrated in different ways. One may be comparing a news article to others to see if the claims made show bias. However, critical thinking can also be shown in other contexts, like problem solving. Say you run out of packing boxes while volunteering at a food drive, but you don't quit; instead, you start using bags you find while someone goes to acquire more boxes. This is an example of applying critical thinking to problem-solving.