

University of Phoenix Material

Stages of Critical Thinking

Complete the table by identifying the six stages of critical thinking, describing how to move from each stage to the next, and listing obstacles you may face as you move to the next stage of critical thinking.

Stages of Critical Thinking	How to Move to the Next Stage	Obstacles to Moving to the Next Stage
Example: The confused thinker	Exposure to thinking in terms of problems and their solutions	Overconfidence about the effectiveness of my thinking
The challenged thinker	Self-questioning - discover my own problems and misconceptions	Overconfidence - progress in understanding will not happen
The beginning thinker	Recognize limitations - understand that the quality of my thinking is dependent on the quality of my thinking	Overconfidence - intellectual and self-deception may lead to complacency at this stage
The practicing thinker	Recognize expertise - understand - improve quality of thinking on a daily basis	Overconfidence - complacency
The advanced thinker	Regularly practice ability to think on a daily basis - develop new fundamental skills of thought	Overconfidence - not consistently practicing critical thinking habits
Master Thinker	Regularly practicing ability to critically think from day to day	Overconfidence - not consistently practicing critical thinking habits

Note: A 100% or 100-year-old master of your current stage of critical thinking development will explain why you should proceed to that stage.

At this point in my life, I would have to say that I am at least from the challenged thinker. I am aware that there are problems in the way that I have been thinking, and that I need to work on solving the problems with my thinking, and most likely active steps to making a commitment to change my thinking. Discovering my own problems and misconceptions are part of what I need to work on. I also need to practice dealing with my misconceptions of things, my differences, my opinions, and self-deceptions. I need to realize what my issues are, and think through each problem thoroughly so that I may pass on to the next stage. My biggest problem would be the obstacles that could get in my way could be time, and procrastination. I have three children at home to take care of and a grandchild on the way. I work part-time, I am an assistant-girl Scout leader, and I am attending school full-time, so when I do have free time, I tend to just relax on one of the television. I would need to try to not waste time, and try to deal with one problem at a time, and think it through thoroughly.