

Soft-Train®



*At Soft-Train
Technology Works*

Critical Thinking (4 Days)

COURSE GOAL: To prepare the students to understand the various components of Critical Thinking

PREREQUISITES: None.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Paraphrase ideas
- Read for Structure
- Read for Reasoning
- Analyze Reasoning
- Diagnose Arguments
- Diagnose Patterns
- Predict and Recommend Logically

KEY TOPICS:

I. Paraphrasing

- A. The Bare Bones Paraphrase
- B. The Concept of Paraphrase
- C. Reading and Paraphrasing
- D. Technique and Vocabulary
- E. Human Understanding
- F. Subtler Issues
- G. Things to Keep in Mind

**II. Reading for Structure:
Dependency and Subordination**

- A. Complexity
- B. Technique and Vocabulary
- C. Useful Patterns
- D. Tricks for Tough Cases
- E. Systematic Features
- F. Trial and Error Exercises

**III. Reading for Reasoning:
Paraphrasing Arguments**

- A. Reading for a Particular Purpose
- B. Reading for Reasoning
- C. Schematizing Directly from a Passage
- D. Charitable Schematizing

IV. Analyzing Reasoning

- A. Argument Analysis: Answering Questions
- B. The Purpose of Analysis
- C. The Fundamental Concepts: Questions and Answers
- D. Refining the Apparatus and Exercising Our Skills
- E. Evaluating Arguments: How Good are the Reasons?

F. Interim Summary: What Have We Learned So Far?

G. Dealing with Disagreement

V. Diagnostic Arguments

A. Diagnostic Questions

B. Diagnostic Concepts

C. Diagnostic Articulation

D. Refinements

E. Diagnostic Investigation

VI. Diagnostic Patterns

A. Cause and Correlation

B. Testimony

C. Sampling

D. Counting Cases:
Introduction by Enumeration

E. Circumstantial Evidence

VII. Further Applications:

Prediction and Recommendation

A. Prediction

B. Recommendation

VIII. Fallacies

A. Fallacies of Construction

B. Critical Fallacies