



The Leader as Critical Thinker

Lakeshore Technical College

March 9, 2021

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What is your definition of critical thinking?

Oxford Dictionaries:

“The objective _____ and _____
of an issue to form a _____.”

Cambridge Dictionary:

“The process of _____ carefully about a subject or idea, without
allowing _____ or _____ to affect you.”

A. Critical Thinking in Leadership

1. Requires a _____ for the company, group, or organization that _____ and directs the work of those involved.
2. _____ the problem-solving process in a _____, rather than _____ way.
3. Considers _____ and _____ of all decisions and which issues _____ action.
4. Recognizes that _____ events and issues can affect _____ concerns and acknowledges the importance of _____.
5. Knows when to be a _____ and when to _____.

B. Visionary Leadership

1. A visionary leader sees _____ for change, how the world could be, and courses of _____ to make change.
2. Seek to create a culture not of _____, but _____.
3. Have _____ on the result you want.
4. Engage in _____ of plans and approaches through _____ and the receipt of _____.
5. Make the _____!

C. Civil Discourse

American Social Psychologist and Professor at Swarthmore College (PA) Kenneth J. Gergen describes it as the “language of dispassionate objectivity”. Key components include:

1. Requires _____ of the other participants
2. Does not diminish the other’s _____ worth nor questions their good _____.
3. Avoids _____, direct _____, or excessive _____.
4. Requires _____ and an appreciation of the other participant’s _____.
5. **Bonus** (one of Dave’s): Keep _____ in check and _____!

Advocacy/Movement	My Grade
The Boston Tea Party	
The Confederacy	
The Civil Rights Movement	
Your Choice	

About the Advocacies

The Boston Tea Party: Was a protest of the Tea Act of 1773, imposed by Great Britain on the colonies, which exempted the British East India Company from taxes on tea from China. Demonstrators, some disguised as Native Americans, boarded ships carrying this tea and destroyed the shipment by throwing it into the harbor. This action had grown out of a meeting called by Whig Leader Samuel Adams to address the growing controversy. The British government responded harshly and this episode escalated into the American Revolution. (Source: Wikipedia)

The Confederacy: The Confederate States of America was an unrecognized country that existed in North America from 1861 to 1865. It was initially created by seven slave-holding states, in the lower south portion of the country, seceding from the United States. After the start of the Civil War in April of 1861, four other slave-holding states joined the confederacy and two others were later accepted as members even though their states did not officially secede. In addition to issues related to slavery, many southern whites considered themselves to be more Southern than American and believe they should have control over state's rights, their economy, politics, and internal improvements. The U.S. government, known as the Union, rejected the claims of secession and considered the Confederacy to be illegally founded. The Civil War lasted from 1861 to 1865, resulting in 620,000 to 850,000 military deaths. The Confederacy did not have a formal end, essentially disappearing by the end of 1865. (Source: Wikipedia)

The Civil Rights Movement: The foundation of the Civil Rights movement was a social justice movement initially as a reaction to treatment of former slaves and their descendants after the Civil War and then became about recognizing equality amongst all people of the country. The Montgomery Bus Boycott that grew out of the arrest of Rosa Parks and others ignited the movement in 1955. Several actions, conflicts, protests, and laws happened over the following years leading to one of the most famous events of the movement in 1963: The March on Washington. The highlight of this event, attended by more than 200,000 people was the "I Have a Dream" speech by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968 which sought to end discrimination in many areas. Court cases and other legislation since have extended those provisions and created new protections in the time since. (Source: History.com)

D. Poor critical thinking skills can lead to:

1. Bad _____.
2. Repetitive_____.
3. Inaccurate _____.
4. Breakdown of _____ amongst team members.

5. _____ and _____ within the organization.
 6. _____!
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Key Points from the Virtual Student Leadership Workshop Series

Making the Most of Your 24/7:

- Determine your priorities to conquer your distractions.
- You are in control of your technology. Don't let it control you.
- Plan your day the night before.

Playing Well with Others:

- Being a good listener means focusing on what you are hearing and not waiting for your turn to talk.
- Share all information and work for collaboration.
- If you have a problem with someone and do not take it to them, then it can't be very significant.

Secrets of Motivation and Delegating Authority:

- Be willing to step back and let people do the job you have delegated them.
- Know your people well enough to use their hot buttons to motivate them.
- Never fear no, you are already at no before you ask.