



*“To strengthen the professionalism of our members”*

---

# **Critical and Creative Thinkers for a Global Age**

---

**Participant Packet**

**Resources**

800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110  
1-800-528-6208 ♦ [www.nysut.org/elt](http://www.nysut.org/elt)

## Session 2: Critical Thinking

### Dispositions of the Critical and Creative Thinker

**Directions:**

Highlight the dispositions in each column that describe you on a regular, consistent basis. It is not an either/or choice. Highlight any and all that apply.

Dispositions of the _____ Thinker	Dispositions of the _____ Thinker
Intellectually curious about a wide range of issues—strives for depth of knowledge.	Intellectually curious about a wide range of issues—has passion areas of expertise.
Thinks open-mindedly from others' perspectives. Challenges basic beliefs and is open to be challenged.	Thinks flexibly and divergently, and challenges the status quo. Asks why.
Utilizes and is practiced at a variety of cognitive skills, based on intellectual standards.	Enjoys challenges. Problems are learning opportunities, interesting, and emotionally acceptable.
Reasons logically and draws appropriate conclusions from evidence and data. Is more concerned about getting it right rather than being right.	Uses skills of observation, questioning, associating, networking, and experimenting.
Intellectually honest. Knows limitations and is aware of ways in which thinking can be faulty, skewed, or influenced.	Risk-taker who breaks restraints and welcomes change and innovation.
Communicates opinions effectively based on intellectual standards.	Comfortable, optimistic, and high self-efficacy with one's own talents.
Self-directed, self-disciplined, self-monitored, and self-corrective thinking.	Understands the development process (incubation, inspiration, and flow) and perseveres.

## **Session 2: Critical Thinking**

### **Critical Thinking Standards: Clarity—Precision—Accuracy**

#### **Directions:**

Consult with a partner and rewrite the statements below to demonstrate *Clarity*, *Precision*, and *Accuracy*.

#### **Why the Gender Gap Persists**

Miss Utah, Marissa Powell (2013). Retrieved from <https://mic.com/articles/49187/6-worst-beauty-pageant-responses-in-the-history-of-miss-america#.oWUTARJDz>

*"I think we can relate this back to education ... and how we are continuing to try to strive ... to figure out how to create jobs right now. That is the biggest problem. I think especially the men are seen as the leaders of this and so we need to figure out how to create education better so that we can solve this problem."*

#### **Actual Signs in Foreign Countries**

Resource: [www.gray-area.org/Research/Ambig/#LIAR](http://www.gray-area.org/Research/Ambig/#LIAR)

#### **ZURICH HOTEL**

1. Because of the impropriety of entertaining guests of the opposite sex in the bedroom, it is suggested that the lobby be used for this purpose.

#### **NORWAY COCKTAIL LOUNGE**

2. Ladies are requested not to have children at the bar.

#### **MOSCOW HOTEL**

3. You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists and writers are buried daily except Thursday.

#### **BUDAPEST ZOO**

4. Please do not feed the animals. If you have any suitable food, give it to the guard.

#### **SWEDISH FURRIER**

5. Fur coats made for ladies from their own skin.

#### **ROME LAUNDRY**

6. Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time.

#### **PARIS SHOP**

7. Dresses for street walking.

#### **RHODES TAILOR**

8. Order summer suits early. In a big rush we will execute customers in strict rotation.

## Session 2: Critical Thinking Survivor: Claim-Support Question

There has been an explosion on your ship and the ship is sinking! There is only one lifeboat. There is a small deserted island about 10 miles away but the ocean is shark infested. The ship is sinking, so time is of the essence.

**Directions:**

1. Claim: Choose 6 individuals to go with you in the lifeboat.
2. Support: Identify positive and negative points in support of your choices.

Occupation	Identity	Positive Points	Negative Points
Corporation CEO	USA: White male, 40, innovator, billionaire	<i>A leader</i>	<i>May be bossy</i>
Wrestler	USA: White male, 28, heavyweight, bipolar		
Farmer	USA: White male, 52, alt-right, agriculture BS		
Surfer	Australia: White male, 21, criminal record		
Police Officer	USA: Black male, 35, former veteran		
Homemaker	USA: Muslim female, 60, Iranian immigrant		
Nurse	USA: Black female, 25, has 3 children		
Doctor	Japan: Asian female, 40, surgeon		
Student	Russia: White female, 11, handicapped		
Retiree	USA: Hispanic male, 68, carpenter, Catholic		
Teenager	Puerto Rico: Hispanic female, 16, pregnant		
Lawyer	USA: White female, 33, Jewish		
Religious Leader	India: Hindu male, 54, Hindu Guru		

**Claim:** I choose these 6 individuals to go with me in the lifeboat.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Session 4: Language and Communication**  
**Language and Communication Activity Center**  
**Thinking Routine: Headlines**

**Directions:**

1. Work individually or with a partner in your group.
2. Choose one of the pictures at your center.
3. Write a descriptive paragraph about the picture using emotive language that influences, sways, slants, or persuades the reader (positive or negative).
4. Review the “Headlines” thinking routine on Text p. 111-112.
5. Create a headline that supports your descriptive paragraph.
6. Take turns sharing your descriptive paragraph and headline with one another.
  - Share your reasoning for the emotive direction you choose.
  - Share your reasoning for the headline you created.
  - Identify the emotive language used in your paragraph and headline.
7. Discuss ways you can use this activity with the students in your classroom.

## Session 4: Language and Communication

### Language and Communication Activity Center

### Thinking Routine: The Micro Lab Protocol

**Directions:**

1. Review “The Micro Lab Protocol” thinking routine on Text p. 147-149.
2. Prior to your Micro Lab Protocol discussion:
  - a. Read this description of school choice from the Friedman Foundation:

School choice allows public education funds to follow students to the schools or services that best fit their needs—whether that’s to a public school, magnet school, private school, charter school, home school, virtual (online) school, or any other learning environment parents choose for their kids. Although not available in every state there are four ways that states offer school choice: school voucher, education savings account, tax-credit scholarship, tax-credit and deduction.
  - b. Watch the video: *Why Teachers Unions Don’t Want School Choice* (2017) (5:05).  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnQu8iRiVYU>

As you watch the video and process the content, make notations in the graphic organizer on this page.

Critical Thinking Points for Examination	Emotive Words Used to Persuade the Audience
	<i>Coerced</i>

3. Use the Micro Lab Protocol to discuss school choice. Practice the listening and communication skills we discussed.
4. Share and discuss your points of agreement or disagreement and the emotive words used to persuade the audience in the video.

## Session 5: Inferential Reasoning Inferences, Assumptions, and Analogies

**Directions:**

For each observation, identify the inference, assumption, and analogy (a similar experience you can recall).

Observation	Inference	Assumption	Analogy or Similar Experience
You see a coworker carrying an umbrella	<i>There must be a prediction of rain.</i>	<i>People carry umbrellas when it rains.</i>	<i>When it rains, I grab an umbrella.</i>
You see a young man coming toward you with an open pocket knife			
You see a woman in a wheelchair			
Your phone rings in the middle of the night			
You see a dog on a chain in a back yard			
You see a man lying in the gutter			
A teen is smiling when she apologizes			
Your son slams the door shut when he comes home from school			

2. Discuss which inferences and assumptions you believe are sound and which could be challenged.

## **Session 6: Logical Fallacies**

### **Logical Fallacies: Truth or Beware?**

**Directions:**

Determine if the following statements are **Truth** or **Beware** and indicate why you think so.

**Truth or Beware?**

1. I'm not a doctor, but I play a doctor on TV, and I would never dream of using anything but Tylenol for my worst headaches.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

2. If we ban smoking, then people will start smoking pot and then move onto heroin and the crime rate will go up in the neighborhood and our houses will lose value.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

3. Our school has a "no tolerance" weapons policy. Since a switch-blade knife was found in your backpack, you will get the mandatory 45 day suspension.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

4. Yes, I stole Jason's lunch, but he took mine yesterday.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

5. Your front tires are showing uneven wear and you the tread wear bars are even with the treads. Since the tread is down to 1/16th of an inch, the tires are no longer safe and need to be replaced.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

6. Ms. Martin makes a great argument for equal pay for woman, but should we listen to a woman who is bossy, has been laid off three times, and sweats when she talks.

Truth \_\_\_\_\_ Beware \_\_\_\_\_ Reasons Why:

## **Session 8: Creative Problem Solving**

### **Creative Problem Solving**

### **Toy with Innovation**

Your company, Toy with Innovation, is launching a project to create low-cost creativity kits and make them available to children around the globe in areas of poverty where children have few toys, especially creative ones. The research team has investigated the potential low-cost, non-perishable items that could be included in the kit.

Your team has been given the task of seeing how many toys can be created with the items included in the kit. A list of potential ideas has been generated. However, you are not limited to the list, so feel free to develop any other toys you can imagine.

**Focus Intent:** Create as many toys as you can using the items in the creativity kit.

**Investigation:** The research team has determined that the following low-cost or donated items can be included in the kit along with two mini figures and a mini car:

- Straws
- Tape
- Pipe cleaners
- Popsicle sticks
- Cotton balls
- Paper cups
- String
- Cupcake papers
- Yarn
- Clothespins
- Paper clips
- Pasta noodles

#### **Imagine-Collaborate-Develop Directions:**

1. Use any of the materials and create as many toys as you can in the time allotted. Additional items are provided in an effort to determine how many of each item should be included in the kit.
2. Use these ideas or any others your group generates:
  - a. Make a device to move a mini figure from one place to another.
  - b. Make a slide for mini figures.
  - c. Make a trap for a mini figure.
  - d. Make a jump ramp for cars.
  - e. Use four items to build the highest tower you can.
  - f. Make up your own game with rules.
  - g. Make a communication device.
  - h. Use three items to make a device that can roll 3 feet.
  - i. Build a house or piece of furniture for a mini figure.
  - j. Use your own imagination to develop something children would love.
3. Keep your toys intact for peer review and feedback.

## **Session 9: Media Literacy in a Global Age**

### **Advertising Slogans and Jingles**

**Directions:**

Match the slogan or jingle with the corresponding company or product.

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| _____ 1. Taste the rainbow.   | A. Adidas                 |
| _____ 2. Eat fresh.   | B. American Express       |
| _____ 3. Just Do It!  | C. Capital One            |
| _____ 4. Finger-lickin' good.   | D. Farmer's Insurance     |
| _____ 5. What's in your wallet?                                       | E. Folger's               |
| _____ 6. Impossible is nothing.                                       | F. Frosted Flakes         |
| _____ 7. When you care enough to send the very best.                  | G. Hallmark               |
| _____ 8. We've got you covered.                                       | H. Kentucky Fried Chicken |
| _____ 9. The best part of waking up is _____ in your cup.             | I. Liberty Mutual         |
| _____ 10. Live in your world. Play in ours.                           | J. Maxwell House          |
| _____ 11. Don't leave home without it.                                | K. Nike                   |
| _____ 12. Good to the last drop.                                      | L. PlayStation            |
| _____ 13. All in one. Input one.                                      | M. Skittles               |
| _____ 14. They're grrreat!  | N. Subway                 |
| _____ 15. We cover a thing or two, because we've seen a thing or two. | O. Xbox                   |

List some slogans/jingles of your own and test your table members.

- 
-