

# Characteristics of Critical Thinkers

## Critical thinkers...

take their time when making important decisions

don't need to be right about everything

examine their own beliefs

are concerned with being fair and accurate

are willing to criticize a popular belief if it is the right thing to do

don't mind admitting that they don't know something

make sure that their beliefs are based on factual evidence

try to make sense of information, not just memorize it

make sure they understand something before they judge it

know that their point of view isn't the absolute truth

see things in shades of grey, not in black and white

give consideration to facts that contradict their beliefs

look for exceptions to generalizations

would rather find a solution that benefits everyone than get their own way

demand evidence before they will believe something

are willing to try any good idea, even if it's unpopular

know exactly why they believe or don't believe certain things

know that an idea can "feel right" but still be wrong