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Beyond Feelings: A Guide To Critical Thinking



Synopsis

This succinct, interdisciplinary introduction to critical thinking successfully dares students to question their own assumptions and to enlarge their thinking through the analysis of the most common problems associated with everyday reasoning. The text offers a unique and effective organization: Part I explains the fundamental concepts; Part II describes the most common barriers to critical thinking; Part III offers strategies for overcoming those barriers.

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Customer Reviews

I've taught critical thinking and business communication for YEARS using this book. Most of my students love it; many keep it and some who rented it ended up buying it. Some student reviewed it as being "boring" to read -- that's a kid who needs this book. It's not the kind of thing you sit down to read for diversion or enjoyment and you can't skim it and get its point, but if you read it and then apply the principles to the problems at the end of the chapters, you'll find that after a while your interpersonal relationships are working better, your problem solving skills have improved and you have more interest in life itself. For what it's worth, critical thinking as Ruggiero teaches in this book was never a strong point of my personality. I needed this book because I could not teach critical thinking; after a few years my own thinking skills evolved and improved. As Ruggiero writes, feeling is an important accessory to thinking since it points our attention to something we need to think about, but it cannot replace rational thought (and vice versa).

This book lacks the basic fundamental principles of a logic class. Not only that, it makes assumptions about human behavior that are debated WITHIN philosophy! For example, on page 40 it says that there is a "wild card in human affairs--free will." The Free Will vs Determinism debate is not even MENTIONED yet is a large part of any critical thinking, logic, or even an Intro to Philosophy class! How could the author just make the leap to say unequivocally "The answer is because people possess free will" without critically analyzing all the evidence that shows that we do not, in fact, have free will. Any good text in philosophy must mention both sides of an argument so they can be critically analyzed. Isn't that the POINT of a critical thinking class? SMH

I love this product, awesome and affordable. The filter did get stained easily, however I did use it for mainly citrus drinks. The plastic is a bit cheap but if taken good care of there will be no problem.

I had to purchase this book for my Critical Thinking class at school and I am very happy that I did. This book is very insightful and offers great information and suggestions for everyone. I recommend this book to anyone looking to further their thinking skills.

During my first semester in college, Autumn of 1978, I was privileged to be enrolled in a class called 'Advanced Composition'. 'Beyond Feelings', and 'Elements of Rhetoric' were the textbooks, both written by our instructor, Vincent Ryan Ruggiero. His grading policy was unorthodox--we would be given writing assignments, both homework and in-class essays, and hand them in. After a few weeks of instruction in Critical Thinking and Analytical Writing, he would hand us back those writing assignments UNCORRECTED. It was our job to correct our own papers, and then rewrite them, our grade being how well we recognized and corrected the weak points in our work. What seemed daunting at first turned out to be a very effective way to inculcate basic principles of thinking objectively. I loved it, and still consider it the most valuable course in my four years of college. Though I have not yet read this new edition, I am sure it will be as useful as the previous edition I had.

I bought this used, and they said it was in decent condition. It looked like it had spent two years in a high school boy's backpack, getting tossed around and beaten up. It will work as a book, but it was overpriced for what I got.

I was suggested to use this in my College English course. It really helped me develop my writing

skills. I would recommend this to any person who wants to increase their writing skills.

Bought for an English class. Very small, organized, and filled with amazingly though provoking ideas!

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