

Children Must be taught, How to Think, Not What to Think

1- Introduction

Thesis Statement: Critical thinking plays a significant role in innovation and creativity therefore, it must be enhanced so that children could be able to solve their problems independently.

2- Reflecting on the Role of education in developing critical thinking

3- Inculcation of thinking at individual and family level:

- a. Creates freedom of thoughts
- b. Boosts the confidence in children.
- c. Improves decision making ability
- d. Instigates lifelong learning
- e. Promotes effective communication

4- Manifestation of critical thinking at societal and career level.

- a. Leads to positive social change
- b. Source of innovation
- c. Improves an organization's ranking
- d. Flow of independent ideas in society
- e. Source of participation in democratic process by questioning misinformation

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5- Scope of Critical Thinking Fostered by Education at broader levels:

- a. Fosters social harmony and integration.
- b. Embraces diversity and avoids sectarianism
- c. Multiperspective approach will be applied in different sectors.
- d. A bright future of state
- e. Roadmap for future scientists and innovators.

6- Conclusion

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Paragraphs of checked Outline.
Point 3 and its sub-paragraphs.

Critical thinking plays a vital role in the life of an individual and its associated relationships. It makes an individual to apply multiperspective approach while dealing with any aspect. This process starts at a very young age when a child goes to school for the first time. Education further nurtures the critical thinking which leads to more informed and reasoned decisions. Paul-Elder Critical Thinking framework emphasizes that critical thinking induces intellectual traits and abilities and impact the lives of individuals or children in a positive way. Better understanding is induced by critical thinking which improves the lives of children and their associated relationships.

First and foremost advantage of inculcating critical thinking at individual level is development of freedom of thoughts. A child can think or try to think without any restrictions which otherwise may limit his ability to think. He tries to look beyond the standardized decisions and think out of the box. Thinking out of box may often leads to discovery of hidden world. Arpa Kareem Randhawa was submitted to Guinness Book of World Record in 2004. She was the youngest Pakistani professional who achieved certificate in

Microsoft Professional at the age of nine. It was her critical thinking which fostered freedom of thoughts and let her think without any limits. Hence, freedom of thoughts as is developed, when critical thinking is inculcated.

Secondly, critical thinking improves the confidence in children, which is important for personality growth. As, it enables children to analyze situations, assess information and make informed decisions. When an individual systematically evaluates decisions and considers different perspectives, he gets better understanding of the whole picture. This improves his confidence as he had managed to think of from different angle and to cope with challenges. The Dunning Kruger effect in psychology is related to interplay among confidence and critical thinking. It argues that people who develop critical thinking become aware of their potential and limitations which improves their confidence. There is a direct relation between confidence and critical thinking.

Thirdly, decision making ability can be improved by adopting critical thinking. It is a common observation that people who think well before doing anything are considered to be on safe side than those who place all the eggs in one basket. Such strategic decisions often have a lasting

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impact on the lives of others. Ayesha Jalal in his book "The Sole Spokesman: Jinnah, the Muslim League and Demand for Pakistan" did analysis of Jinnah's critical thinking and his decisions. She argues that Jinnah being ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity made such steps that killed two birds with one stone and led to creation of Pakistan. Therefore, critical thinking enhance better decision making which improves the life of other as well.

Fourthly, critical thinking is not time bound and induces life long learning. Strategic thinking leads to a path who fosters learning at every step. When a child develops critical framework, he uses multiperspective approach while dealing with different aspects and get unique learning as an output. The concept of Metacognition in psychology is closely tied to critical thinking and life-long learning. It involves thinking about one's own thinking processes, which includes his potentials and weaknesses. This improves the ability to regulate and control learning. Moreover, it brings improvement in personality of a child along learning. So, critical thinking plays a crucial role in promoting learning and adaptation.

In addition to life long learning, a child can improve his communication by fostering his critical

thinking. It encourages an individual to check the aspect from different angles and then be able to convince others. It encourages active listening, evaluation of evidence and establishment of well supported arguments. Theory of Communicative Action depicts a better picture of this argument. It states that for meaningful interactions, thoughts and well reasoned communication is necessary which is fostered by strategic thinking. A teacher cannot convince his students, a child cannot force his parents and a lawyer cannot prove his argument without meaningful conversations which are achieved by critical thinking.

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It is important to