

Critical Thinking Skills

Aline O'Connor

Business Management Module

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Quiz: What is Critical Thinking?

What does the phrase “critical thinking” mean?

- a. Thinking about important things in business
- b. Criticizing a bad situation when there are problems
- c. Using your brain to creatively anticipate, identify, and solve potential problems
- d. Implementing answers other people have given you

Critical Thinking ...

- ✓ Your most important job

- ✓ The most important skill to look for in your senior managers

Simple Truth: In some cases,
to engage in critical thinking,
you must have some solid facts
to think about!

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Numbers, records, analysis

Otherwise you are just guessing, not engaging in critical thinking

How to recognize critical thinkers

They:

- Think beyond “what’s in front of them”
- Think cross-functionally (e.g., how does production impact finance? Or marketing?)
- Look at opportunity costs
- Seek all pertinent information to solve a problem
- Learn from their mistakes
- Get excited about sharing what they have learned
- Think “what is the best thing to do here”



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CRACKED
11%



VIAble
23%



INSECT
13%



AbNormal
5%



DISEASED
42%
HEATED

DISCARD
SEED



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SALEABLE SEED
IN PACKAGE

87%



13%



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How to recognize critical thinkers: Are YOU one?

- Think beyond “what’s in front of you”
- Think cross-functionally (e.g., how does production impact finance? Or marketing?)
- Look at your opportunity costs
- Seek all pertinent information to solve a problem
- Learn from your, and your company’s, mistakes
- Get excited about sharing what you have learned
- Think “what is the best thing to do here”

Three Critical Thinking Exercises

1. Human resources problem
2. Production problem
3. Input supply problem (getting parent seed)

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