

USING PICTURESQUE ACTIVITIES FOR ENHANCING CRITICAL THINKING ABILITIES IN ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASSROOMS

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Abstract: *this thesis is devoted to the influence of critical thinking skills which is the most effective to improve language learner's individual capabilities by using wonderful activities. Furthermore, critical thinking assists to develop individual's ability to consider and make correct decisions autonomously. This very thesis is attempted to depict that information about using activities for developing critical thinking in EFL (English as a foreign language) classrooms. Not only widen a horizon, but also thinking process can influence on language learner's ability to learn a language successfully and quickly.*

Keywords: *Critical thinking, EFL classrooms, English language, thinking process, critical thinking skills.*

As we know that critical thinking is one of the most vital processes which assists human beings to reckon logically, clearly as well as to make intensive and sensible judgements. It can be obtained and strengthened throughout the life. Elder states that critical thinking is self –motivated, self –guided, or self –disciplined thinking which endeavour to reason at the highest level of quality in a fair –minded way. People, who consider logically, consistently, critically attempt to live reasonably, empathically and rationally. It is widely mentioned that human beings with critical thinking can tackle complicated issues along with tasks easily, owing to the fact that such kinds of people think objectively about most things.

Besides that, enhancing critical thinking requires intentional and careful improvement of specific capacities within abilities in progressing information, thinking point of views and solving the problems. Using critical thinking in the classrooms can make the process of learning more brilliant, fascinating as well as crucial. It is also an extraordinary method of memorizing topics, themes as soon as possible. For instance, whilst language learners are being taught a topic and learners are used to ask a lot of questions like What? How? Why? It will make the language more meaningful for them in the learning process [1].

Indeed, the students who exist in critical thinking are capable of accomplishing complex tasks, however other students are unable of it. It can be seen that by this they are encouraged or motivated and inspired to carry on learning. According to Mahyuddin. R's research, "Language learners with critical thinking ability are capable of thinking creatively and critically so as to reach the goals of the curriculum; to be capable of making up one's mind and solving problems; to be capable of using their thinking skills and of comprehensive language or its contents; to be capable of treating thinking abilities as the process of lifelong learning; and finally, spirituality, intellectually, physically and emotionally well –balanced" [2].

Especially, critical thinking insists on learners to read more, study hard, get more knowledge search more beneficial information so as to be an excellent learner. As a result, it leads them to achieve their ambitious aims and be higher than others. Due to the fact that people with critical thinking find out how to reckon successfully and their brain can be capable of executive functions like concentrated on thought as well as problem –solving skills. Moreover, we can see some merits of critical thinking in learning, but it is much harder to use it in the classrooms than we reckon. Boon examples of some fascinating activities are represented to strengthen critical thinking among language learners:

1. Enhancing a critical mindset;

Write a sentence on the blackboard which is likely to evoke a reaction and opinion either pros and cons the sentence. Ask students to work on their own and think deeply their personal response to this very sentence. In that case, do they agree or disagree with it? However, you ought to ask students in Why? questions. They have to express their personal viewpoints and ideas with their thoughts appropriately.

2. Discerning a context;

Choose one of the most fascinating images. It can be cartoons, photographs or any kinds of graphics. Show it to the students and give some questions to them:

- What can you say about this picture?
- Is it depicted beneficial atmosphere or not?
- How can you describe it?
- Where do you think you might see it? For instance, in a reading book with a text about something.
- Did the person who made or took the image have particular information?
- Why do you think so?

-Can you prove your opinion with another example? [3]

All things considered, it can be concluded that critical thinking is one of the most valuable capacities comprehensively, namely reading, writing, speaking etc [4]. Additionally, critical thinking needs enhancing among language learners because of its necessity in strengthening the process of effective learning. Driving critical thinking among students which is one of the most essential tasks of language pedagogies. It is undeniable true that critical thinking should be regarded as a significant process in language learning in every EFL classrooms [5].

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