

Questioning as we learn: An introduction to critical thinking

Material for Higher Education students in Sierra Leone by INASP, UK



Provided by the Critical Thinking Taskforce (CTTF) within the project AQHEd-SL

Unit 1 - Snippet 16



Reading activity – Questioning

Read the text below and make notes of the most important ideas in it. Take notice of how critical thinkers are encouraged to engage with information and the example questions.

Developing our thinking so that we can critically handle information requires active engagement in exploration, which comes primarily with questioning as we interact with that information, with what we have read or heard. Critical thinking aims to place us firmly in control of information so we can challenge, integrate, reconfigure, adapt, or dismiss it. This occurs when we ask ourselves questions as: What does this information mean to me? Is it helpful? Is it reliable? How can I use it? How does it compare to what I already know? How do I feel about these ideas? What might be the consequences of acting on these ideas for me and for others?



Albert Einstein quote about raising questions as scientist (Photograph taken in the Nobel museum in Stockholm)