
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 2 - Snippet 43

What are your thoughts on the question whether a text can only serve one purpose?

Take for example the snippet 38 text *'Disasters have visible impacts on poverty'*: The text seems to have an element of cause/effect when stating that "poverty increased by 18 percent, mainly because of higher food prices".

Or take the text *"Global warming" or "climate change"?* in snippet 39: It provides the reader with definitions of the terms 'global warming' ("refers to the increase in the Earth's average surface temperature since the Industrial Revolution, primarily due to the emission of greenhouse gases from the burning of fossil fuels and land use change") and 'climate change' ("refers to the long-term change of the Earth's climate including changes in temperature, precipitation and wind patterns over a period of several decades or longer").

So a text can have elements of different frames but usually the text has one main purpose, being proposition/support in the case of *'Disasters have visible impacts on poverty'* and compare/contrast in the case of *'Global warming or climate change?'*.

References:

Snippet 36: www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/climate-science/understanding-climate-change (accessed 31/01/2017)

Snippet 37: www.boundless.com/biology/textbooks/boundless-biology-textbook/photosynthesis-8/overview-of-photosynthesis-80/the-purpose-and-process-of-photosynthesis-371-11597 (accessed 31/01/2017)
<http://nre509.wikidot.com/lecture-4-exam-questions> (accessed 31 January 2017)

Snippet 38: Hallegatte, S., Vogt-Schilb, A., Bangalore, M. and Rozenberg, J. (2017). 'Unbreakable: Building the Resilience of the Poor in the Face of Natural Disasters', Climate Change and Development Series, World Bank, Washington DC. doi: 10.1596/978-1-4648-1003-9

Snippet 39: <https://journalistsresource.org/studies/environment/climate-change/research-global-warming-meaning-use-terms> (accessed 22 January 2017)

Snippet 40: www.t-h-inker.net/content/critical-incident-technique-cit (accessed 31/01/2017)

Snippet 41: <https://gqwash.org/view/61777/local-governments-are-joining-together-to-clean-up-the-anacostia-river> (accessed 31/01/2017)