

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 3 - Snippet 74

The inductive argument that we asked you to write in snippet 73 should look like:

Premise: *On a large number of observed and documented instances, it has taken people travelling in conditions very similar to yours 15 minutes to make that specific journey from the Aberdeen ferry terminal to the hotel at Lumley beach.*

Conclusion: *Therefore, it should take you this amount of time as well.*



Q&A activity – Inductive argument

Now consider the following argument:

Premise 1: Current evidence indicates that fruits and vegetables consumed as part of the daily diet can help reduce the risk of coronary heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancer

[see for example http://www.who.int/elena/titles/bbc/fruit_vegetables_ncds/en/].

Premise 2: Ovo-lacto vegetarians avoid the consumption of fruit and vegetables.

Conclusion: Therefore, based on the current evidence, the diet of ovo-lacto vegetarians cannot be seen as a healthy diet.

Do you think the conclusion of this argument is believable? Why or why not? Please note your answer down.

Tip: If you don't know what an ovo-lacto vegetarian diet is, look it up or check with your fellow students whether someone knows what that is.