

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 4 - Snippet 88

Why should we engage with facts and opinions?

The late 7th UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan points out in an interview about information exchange:

- We live in an interconnected world and what happens in one country has impact on others.
- We need to be aware of what is happening around us beyond our own community and our own country.
- Young people are much better connected than any other generations before them.



Kofi Annan therefore gives the advice “Take action locally but think globally”. He says further that the young generation has access to lots of information but needs “judgement and maturity to use the information effectively”.

(The interview can be watched on Youtube - https://youtu.be/uNUSI_9lXGg.)



Reflective activity – Facts and opinions

Reflect on the following questions and make notes:

- Do you agree with what Kofi Annan is saying in this interview?
- Is it important to distinguish between facts and opinions to be able to use information effectively? Why or why not?

You may want to discuss your thoughts with your fellow students.