
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 91



Quiz – Answer key for snippet 90

Question 1

The statement can be verified (or falsified) by observing tigers. So, it's a fact.

Question 2

The statement expresses a prediction about how the long-term survival of tigers can be achieved. It's an opinion you can agree or disagree with, as it cannot be verified at the time the statement is uttered. The expression 'have come to believe' has given you a clue that's it is an opinion rather than a fact.

Question 3

Mandela's fellow prisoners say they have seen the tigers with their own eyes. The speakers here thus talk about their observations and propose to make a statement of fact. However, observations can be erroneous and facts can be false. For example, the fellow prisoners could have mistaken another animal for a tiger. Facts must undergo objective tests before one can decide whether they are true or false.

Don't worry if you weren't able to give good answers to all the questions. Only a very experienced critical thinker would have no difficulties with answering the questions.