

Questioning as we learn: An introduction to critical thinking

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

Assuring

Quality Higher Education

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(AQHEd-SL)

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Unit 5 - Snippet 113

Perspectives and biases

Today you are starting unit 5 which focuses on perspective, i.e. our particular attitude towards or way of regarding something, and bias, i.e. our tendency to be subjective when we weigh a situation or judge something. Our background, our experiences, our unconscious mind may lead us to perceive the same situation differently from others. As critical thinkers, we would like to be as unbiased as possible, which is why, if we want to be fair in judging a situation, we should keep an open mind and learn about as many other people's perspectives about the same issue as possible before we make up our mind what to think and how to act.



This unit will help you to recognize different perspectives or point of views speakers or authors may approach a topic from. You will also learn how to identify biases when analyzing information. Having an increased understanding of perspectives and biases means you will be better able to reflect on your own and others' biases.

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