Use critical thinking techniques in your design work



Overview

This unit is about using fundamental critical thinking skills. It applies to all individuals who need the capacity to think critically and apply that thinking to a range of situations and challenges. It focuses on the conscious development of skills to ask essential questions and evaluate and use the information in order to progress the process. Questioning is needed to get information in order to carry out your task and provoke the creative thought process.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 ask questions of yourself to challenge and expand your thinking and understanding
- P2 ask questions of others in a constructive way to seek broader knowledge and understanding
- P3 assess the best way to structure questions for different situations
- P4 take responsibility for answering questions as well as for asking them
- P5 from many possible questions, identify the key question to be answered
- P6 evaluate relevance and usefulness of the information gathered
- P7 check your own preconceptions and assumptions and determine their validity
- P8 reach a well considered conclusion or answer, asking further questions where necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the values and benefits of questions for individuals and business
- K2 the importance of asking questions
- K3 the importance of contributing to answering questions
- K4 obstacles to the critical thinking process

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