

# CRITICAL THINKING

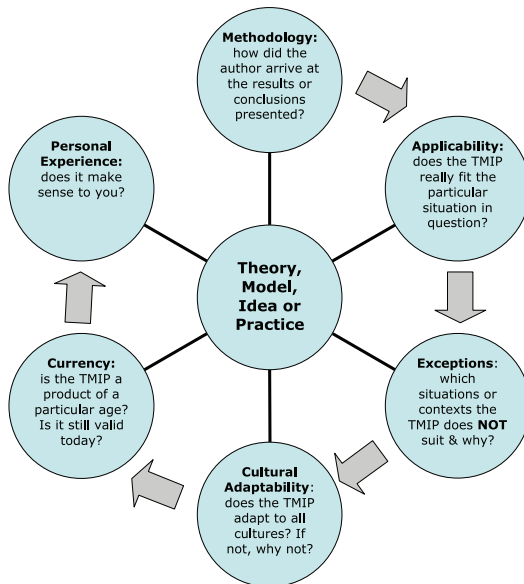
Students who analyse theories, models, ideas and practices (TMIP) in an intelligent and objective way can gain good marks in assignments, compared to students who present accurate but just descriptive summaries of them.

Critical thinking is about evaluating the **reliability** and **validity** of any theory, model, idea or practice in the context in which it is applied, or to be applied. It is

about making connections, synthesizing and weighing-up ideas.

At the heart of critical thinking is a process of enquiry, driven by a set of questions.

The questions you ask to test the validity and applicability of TMIPs include:



## SUGGESTED READING:

Cottrell, S. (2005). *Critical Thinking Skills: Developing Effective Analysis and Argument*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.