

The Explicit Teaching of Thinking Skills

We can class thinking skills generally into two types, **creative** and **critical**. **Creative thinking** is divergent in nature and seeks multiple solutions to challenges. It relies on information stored in long-term memory and seeks to combine it with new information in the working memory. **Critical thinking** is convergent in nature and seeks to narrow the field of options by applying criteria or evaluation to the challenge. Both creative

The Explicit Teaching Of Thinking Skills Matrix

Level	Six Hat Thinking	Thinkers Keys	Graphic Organisers	Extended Brainstorming	Reflective Learning
One	Evaluation Sequence – Yellow and Black Hats	What if The Alternative The Alphabet The Brainstorm	Venn Diagram Web	Fluency Flexibility	Thinking about My Learning Self Assessment L1 Thinking Hats
Two	Caution Sequence – White and Black Hats	The Variation The Different Uses The Construction The Disadvantages The Commonality	Chain of Events - Sequencing Brain Drops – Generate Ideas Play off- Either Or Flow Chart	Originality Elaboration	Thinking about My Learning Self Assessment L2 PMI Philosophy Circles Thinking Hats
Three	Design Sequence – Blue, Green and Red Hats	The BAR The Prediction The Reverse The Commonality The Invention The Combination	Bridges – Connecting Ideas Go to your Corners – Pros and Cons Mind Maps The Funnel – Synthesing Ideas	Curiosity Complexity	Thinking about My Learning Self Assessment L3 What? So What? Now What?
Four	Planning Sequence	The Brick Wall The Interpretation The Picture The Forced Relationship The Ridiculous The Question	Comparison Alley – Compare and Contrast See Saw – What if Drop Down – Generating Options Mind Wind – Elaborating Ideas	Risk taking Imagination	Writing Rubrics Multiple Intelligences Self Assessment L4

