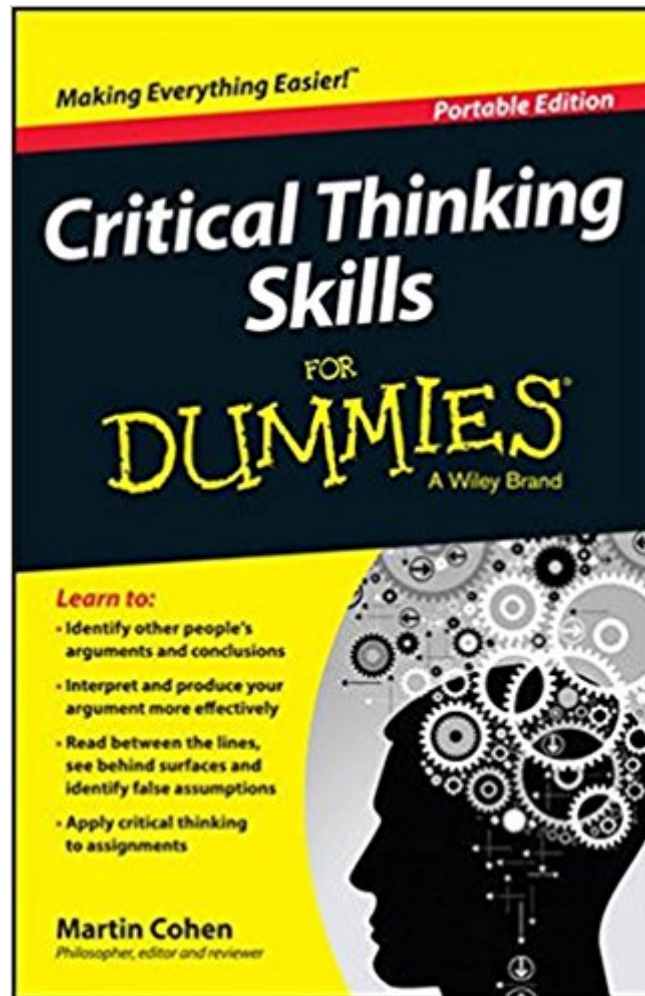




The book was found

# Critical Thinking Skills For Dummies



## Synopsis

Turbocharge your reasoning with Critical Thinking – Just what are the ingredients of a great argument? What is the secret to communicating your ideas clearly and persuasively? And how do you see through sloppy thinking and flim-flam? – If you’ve ever asked any of these questions, then this book is for you! – These days, strong critical thinking skills provide a vital foundation for academic success, and Critical Thinking Skills For Dummies offers a clear and unintimidating introduction to what can otherwise be a pretty complex topic. Inside, you’ll get hands-on, lively, and fun exercises that you can put to work today to improve your arguments and pin down key issues. – With this accessible and friendly guide, you’ll get plain-English instruction on how to identify other people’s assumptions, methodology, and conclusions, evaluate evidence, and interpret texts effectively. You’ll also find tips and guidance on reading between the lines, assessing validity – and even advice on when not to apply logic too rigidly! Critical Thinking Skills for Dummies: Provides tools and strategies from a range of disciplines great for developing your reflective thinking skills Offers expert guidance on sound reasoning and textual analysis Shows precisely how to use concept mapping and brainstorming to generate insights Demonstrates how critical thinking skills is a proven path to success as a student Whether you’re undertaking reviews, planning research projects or just keen to give your brain a workout, Critical Thinking Skills For Dummies equips you with everything you need to succeed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you like this book, you may well enjoy applying your Critical Thinking skills to the big debates in contemporary science (which my book *Paradigm Shift* is about) - or to those evergreen problems of philosophy which my two 'books present. These books present problems in very short passages - ideal for group brainstorming!\* Ps those CTS tests: for anyone still scratching their heads, I better put this right: on p89, Q10: the correct number of miles per day 226, and as to the bonus question there were three people drinking tea originally, and Grandma makes the fourth). In question 10 too, the equation needed is actually (rounding up the cost of renting from £19.99 to £20) something like:  $20 + (\text{number-of-miles} - 100) * 1 = 100 + (\text{number-of-miles} * 0.2)$ .

Learn to: Identify other people's arguments and conclusions Interpret and produce your argument more effectively Read between the lines, see behind surfaces and identify false assumptions Apply critical thinking to assignments Analyse, evaluate and apply information to create cohesive arguments Have you ever received feedback suggesting you need to be more critical in your assignments? Written specifically for students, this friendly guide takes the intimidation out of the topic and provides hands-on, active instruction and exercises to help you apply critical thinking in your academic work to achieve higher grades. Have a think; grasp the science and sociology behind thinking and find out how to assess your thinking skills Put the pieces together; find out how critical thinking is like solving puzzles Your critical thinking toolbox; use mind maps, concept flow charts, dump lists, meta-thinking, virtues and vices and triangulation Put it to practice; apply critical thinking to reading, writing, speaking and listening Smoke and mirrors; separate fact from opinion, know a writer's (or speaker's) position and utilise sound source checking Open the book and find: The who, where and when of thinking How to know your 'thinking habits'; Why you should beware of being too critical The logic of real arguments How to be a rational animal Unsound argument tactics to avoid Lots of exercises to help you master your skills

The book covers the standard material on logical fallacies, as well as a number of other subjects. I found it a little wordy, but that is just my preference. However, in general, I think he does a nice job of critical thinking. However, I think the book contains a little non critical thinking itself. Here are two examples. 1. In Chapter 17, in Proving that In Practice God Doesn't exist, he states the argument "If an all-powerful, all-knowing God exists who wants the world to be the best possible place full of happy people and good things,...God wouldn't allow at least some of the nasty things that evidently

go on all the time." He claims there is no flaw in this. There are multiple come-backs. One is that people cannot be happy unless they have the will to freely choose, and this makes it possible for them to choose badly, resulting in nasty things. So God must allow these things to happen as a logical consequence of what being happy entails. Another is that we do not know that God has not allowed some of the nasty things to happen that could have happened.<sup>2</sup> I could not find the quote, but I recall that he states that at one time in England they hanged someone for being a homosexual. In fact it was for engaging in homosexual behavior, which is not necessarily the same thing. He sneaks in the idea that you ARE a homosexual if you engage in homosexual behavior.

excellent tool.

another book I got on mistake

Great book

I using this book with my students. Great basic principles that anyone can use

Stands out in the section of critical thinking books. Think critically if you want to be logical, rational, and smart.

In addition to this copy I purchased for a friend, I used my original copy as a companion to the textbook in a philosophy class. In my opinion, it is NOT for dummies. I expected a simplified, large-print-with-bullet-points, text. Maybe there is a version like that; this one is not. I didn't like the compact size because it was hard to keep open when highlighting or adding notes. However, if you don't plan to use it like that, the size shouldn't be an issue. Just know that I'm not at all knocking the book; for many people, size doesn't matter. The material is excellent and absolutely easier to comprehend than a textbook, but I recommend having some prior knowledge of the subject. Thumbs up!

Simple enough to understand and practical enough to use.

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