

Introduction to Critical Thinking

1. Critical thinking is...

... the ability to think clearly and _____.

... the ability to identify _____ in reasons and arguments.

... the ability to identify your own beliefs, values, and _____.

... the ability to identify fact and _____.

opinion

errors

rationally

biases

2. Define fact and opinion:

Fact: _____

Opinion: _____

3. Fact or opinion?

English is easier than Japanese.

Fact / Opinion

Mount Everest is taller than Mount Fuji.

Fact / Opinion

Dogs are better than cats.

Fact / Opinion

Smoking is bad.

Fact / Opinion

4. Discuss with a partner. Are these statements **fact** or **opinion**?

- If car use decreases, pollution decreases. Therefore, people should use buses and trains more.
- Life was better in the past because people were happier.
- Typhoon Hagibis, the largest typhoon in Japan since 1959, happened because of climate change.