Week 1 Assignment

Murat Bayer

1. Write a brief summary: “What is critical thinking?”

The three functions of the mind; Feelings, desires, and thoughts determine our actions; changing thoughts is essential to change our feelings and desires.

When we redesign the thinking process through elements of reasoning, to one that is precise, logical, and in-depth or in line with some essential intellectual standards in accordance with universal ethical rules such as intellectual integrity, humility, and empathy, etc.; we are able to distinguish rational motives from egocentric and sociocentric ones and we can start learning and developing critical thinking skills.

1. Write a brief summary: “How is the conception of critical thinking presented here different from conceptions of critical thinking that I have previously encountered?”

When I started reading the materials, I realized that intellectual standards and intellectual virtues must be learned as a skill step by step.

I encountered critical thinking partially when I was studying acting, through analyzing theatre scripts to create a character. In that process, mostly we were researching the character’s motives so all we had to understand that character’s egocentric sides.

1. Write briefly: “How can you apply this module’s content to your daily life?”

I would like to apply these intellectual standards and intellectual virtues into my daily life to elevate my understanding and to help others more, especially my students.

1. Write briefly: “Your name, your title, your school, your motivation for taking this course, what you hope to learn in it.”

My name is Murat and I’m a primary drama teacher at School of the Nations, Macau. My motivation for taking this course is believing that the only way to make a difference in changing my thinking skill is to help myself and others. I hope to learn how to gradually apply all these standards and virtues when developing this skill.