Strong Sense Versus Weak Sense Critical Thinking

Top of Form

1. I understand strong sense critical thinking to mean... a way of considering multiple points of view with an open mind and pursuing the option/way of thinking that makes the most logical sense. Giving all view points the benefit of the doubt, without showing preference to what I already hold to be true. I seek truth and fairmindedness over my biases and current beliefs.
2. I understand weak sense critical thinking to mean... a way of evaluating viewpoints from an ego/socio centric viewpoint that does not fairly consider all streams of logic or viewpoints but instead seeks only what is already known and held to be true. It is a way of thinking that discounts others’ beliefs in preference of one’s own and with this narrow-minded approach seeks to be right or unfairly obtain personal gain over what is right and true or logically sounder.
3. I see the following examples of strong-sense critical thinking in my thinking and actions...  
     
   When our family is discussing ways or doing things or where it might be best to go for vacation, I listen with an open mind and consideration of their wants, needs, and ideas. I try to make a choice that will make the most sense or bring the most enjoyment and least stress for everyone involved.
4. I can admit to the following examples of weak-sense critical thinking in my thought and actions....

Sometimes when I am well-versed in a topic or experienced in doing something, I discount others’ suggestions without considering them fully as part of the solution.

1. I can improve my thinking and my behavior in the following ways, based on this analysis...  
   Bottom of Form

I could do better at stopping to think through their perspective and why they are making that suggestion before I follow the approach I think is best. Perhaps when I am working on something where I have more confidence and experience, I should take an extra note to check myself and listed, maybe even seeking out what other people think. I might learn a few things – and make them feel valued and heard in the process.