

ESSENTIAL SKILLS ONLINE

SUBJECT: Critical evaluation of information online

LESSON TOPIC: Developing skills to critically evaluate online sources

DURATION: 45 minutes

LEARNING OBJECTIVE/S:

Students will develop critical thinking and media literacy skills necessary for evaluating online information effectively.

Competencies acquired: applying critical thinking skills to analyze online content, practicing media literacy techniques to interpret information accurately.

MATERIALS/RESOURCES NEEDED:

- Module 4 (<https://www.digi-civis.eu/e-learning>)
- Checklist of credibility indicators
- Whiteboard and markers

METHODS/TECHNIQUES:

The lesson includes an interactive lecture on critical thinking and media literacy.

LESSON PLAN OVERVIEW

PREPARATION:

- Develop a lecture focusing on critical thinking (including problem-solving, active listening, decision making, etc.) and media literacy (including reflecting on one's media choices, identifying sponsored content, recognizing stereotypes, etc.) skills, including how to analyze and interpret online information.
- Print a checklist of critical thinking and media literacy indicators for students to use during analysis.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Introduce the importance of critical thinking and media literacy in evaluating online information. Using the module 4 of the e-learning course, explain and demonstrate critical thinking and media literacy techniques.
- Students complete a checklist to evaluate their current skills in critical thinking and media literacy.

MORE INFORMATION TO LEARN MORE:

- [Media and Information Literate Citizens: Think Critically, Click Wisely!](#)

ANNEXES:

- Critical thinking checklist
- Media literacy checklist

HOMEWORK:

Use the critical thinking and media literacy checklist to evaluate how well you apply each of the skills to analyze the content.

ASSESSMENT:

Assess students' ability to apply the critical thinking and media literacy skills to their chosen content based on their checklists.

ANNEX I: CRITICAL THINKING CHECKLIST

Complete the checklist below to evaluate your current skills in critical thinking and media literacy. For each statement, indicate whether you often, sometimes, or rarely apply the skill. Reflect on your answers to identify areas for improvement.

Critical thinking skills:

1. I can identify the main argument or thesis of an article or piece of content.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

2. I can distinguish between facts and opinions in a piece of content.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

3. I am able to assess the strength of evidence supporting an argument.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

4. I can recognize biases in arguments presented online.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

5. I can formulate questions to challenge the validity of the information presented.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

ANNEX: MEDIA LITERACY CHECKLIST

Media literacy skills:

1. I am able to evaluate the credibility of the sources of information I encounter online.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

2. I can identify the purpose and intended audience of a piece of content.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

3. I understand how media ownership and commercial interests might affect the content presented.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

4. I can recognize different types of media formats (e.g., news articles, advertisements, opinion pieces) and their potential impact.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely

5. I am able to identify signs of bias or propaganda in media content.
 - Often
 - Sometimes
 - Rarely