



# **WP3 – INTERACTIVE INFOGRAPHICS FOR CAREER MANAGEMENT SKILLS**

**Critical Thinking**

# CALL-TO-ACTION ACTIVITY

## THEMATIC AREA

Prepare – skills for job seeking

## ACTIVITY TITLE

Critical thinker's career challenge

## TYPE OF RESOURCE

Interactive workshop



## DURATION OF ACTIVITY (IN MINUTES)

60 minutes

## LEARNING OUTCOME

- Define critical thinking
- Explore how critical thinking applied to job-seeking scenarios can be used effectively when preparing for a career
- Integrate critical thinking into job-seeking strategies, influencing career decisions

## AIM OF ACTIVITY

This activity aims to cultivate essential critical thinking skills for effective job seeking. Participants will explore how critical thinking enhances their ability to navigate career decisions, influencing strategies for successful job searching. Engaging in this activity will empower young learners to approach their career paths with a well-honed and analytical mindset.

## MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR ACTIVITY

- Flipchart or whiteboard and markers
- Critical thinking exercises [see template]
- Pens and paper
- Printed job descriptions/case studies for analysis [see template]

## STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

### Step 1: Introduction to critical thinking

- Define critical thinking and its relevance to job seeking
- Reflect on how critical thinking skills can positively impact career decisions and job search strategies

### Step 2: Critical thinking exercises

- Consider the attached template with scenarios that require critical thinking
- Analyse and reflect about the scenarios, fostering your problem-solving skills

### Step 3: Application to job seeking

- Consider the templates of job descriptions and case studies [see template]
- Apply your critical thinking skills to assess and strategize effective approaches for the given scenarios

### Step 4: Self-reflection

- Reflect on insights gained from the critical thinking exercises
- Reflect on how you can integrate critical thinking into your personal job-seeking strategies

## TEMPLATE

### Step 1: Introduction

Critical thinking is the ability to analyse, evaluate, and synthesise information to make informed decisions. In job seeking, critical thinking is vital. It empowers individuals to assess job opportunities, align career goals, and navigate challenges. Possessing critical thinking skills enhances the capacity to evaluate complex situations, strategize effective solutions, and make informed career decisions. This skill set positively impacts job search strategies by enabling individuals to adapt, innovate, and stand out in a competitive job market. In essence, critical thinking is the compass guiding proactive decision-making, fostering success in both career development and the pursuit of meaningful employment.

### Steps 2, 3 and 4: Critical thinker's career challenge template

Introduction to critical thinking

- Define critical thinking: [insert your definition or write down some key points after reading the introduction]
- Relevance to job seeking: [highlight how critical thinking enhances career decisions and job search strategies]

Critical thinking exercises

- Exercise 1 (scenario):  
*You are presented with two job offers: Job A offers a higher salary, but it requires relocating to a new city, while Job B offers a lower salary but allows you to work remotely. Use critical thinking to assess the pros and cons of each option, considering factors such as career growth, work-life balance, and personal preferences. Formulate a strategy for making a well-informed decision.*
- Analysis: [analyse the scenario, considering various perspectives]
- Reflection: [write a pro and con list related to the scenario]
- Exercise 2 (scenario):  
*You have identified a job opportunity that aligns with your skills and interests, but the company has mixed reviews online regarding its work culture. Apply critical thinking to determine how you can gather additional information about the company's work environment.*

Consider various sources such as employee reviews, industry forums, and networking. Develop a strategy to assess the credibility of the information and make an informed decision on whether to pursue the job opportunity.

- Analysis: [analyse the scenario, considering various perspectives]
- Discussion: [write a pro and con list related to the scenario]

### Application to job seeking

- Job description/case study analysis

#### 1: Marketing coordinator

*You are considering a marketing coordinator position at a fast-paced startup. The role involves managing social media, coordinating events, and collaborating with cross-functional teams.*

#### 2: IT Support specialist

*You come across an IT Support Specialist position at a well-established company. The role includes troubleshooting technical issues, providing user support, and maintaining IT systems.*

#### 3: Project manager

*You discover a Project Manager position at a nonprofit organisation focused on community development. The role entails coordinating projects, managing budgets, and collaborating with community stakeholders.*

#### 4: Sales representative in a competitive market

*You are interested in a Sales Representative position in a highly competitive market. The role involves prospecting new clients, meeting sales targets, and building long-term relationships.*

#### 5: Human Resources generalist

*Consider a Human Resources Generalist role at a growing tech company. The responsibilities include recruitment, employee relations, and policy implementation.*



#### 6: Content Creator for a Start-up Blog

*You encounter a position as a Content Creator for a start-up blog. The role involves generating engaging content, managing social media, and building an online audience.*

#### 7: Data analyst in an e-commerce company

*Evaluate a Data Analyst position in an e-commerce company. The role requires analysing customer data, identifying trends, and providing insights for business improvement.*

#### 8: Customer service specialist in a tech start-up

*You come across a Customer Service Specialist position at a tech start-up. The role involves handling customer inquiries, providing technical support, and ensuring customer satisfaction.*

#### 9: Financial analyst in a global corporation

*Consider a Financial Analyst position in a global corporation. The role involves financial forecasting, budgeting, and analysis of international markets.*

#### 10: Event planner for corporate conferences

*Evaluate an Event Planner position focused on organising corporate conferences. The role includes coordinating logistics, managing budgets, and ensuring the success of large-scale events.*

- Analyse the job descriptions and strategize how you would tailor your application to showcase your skills and fit [apply critical thinking skills to assess and strategize effective approaches]
- Individual reflection: [write your individual reflections on the application of critical thinking to job-seeking scenarios]

#### Self- reflection

- Insights gained: [insights gained from the critical thinking exercises]
- Integration into job seeking: [reflect on how you can integrate critical thinking into your personal job-seeking strategies]

### Action plan

- Identify areas of improvement: [list specific areas in your job-seeking approach where critical thinking can be enhanced]
- Strategies for improvement: [outline practical strategies to integrate critical thinking into your job-seeking activities]

### Overall reflection

- Summarise key learnings: [summarise your key learnings from the critical thinking exercises]
- Personal takeaways: [note your individual reflections on how these learnings will influence your future career decisions]





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