Critical Thinking Facts

**Benefits:**

-Raises vital questions and problems, formulating them clearly and precisely

-Gathers and assesses relevant information, using abstract ideas to interpret it effectively

-Comes to well-reasoned conclusions and solutions, testing them against relevant criteria and standards

-Thinks open mindedly within alternative systems of thought, recognizing and assessing, as need be, their assumptions, implications, and practical consequences

-Communicates effectively with others in figuring out solutions to complex problems

**Barriers:**

-Egocentric Thinking

-Biased Experiences

-Trusting testimonial evidence

-Accepting authority without question

-Arrogance and Intolerance

-Ignorance and the failure to admit it

**Critical Thinking Components:**

-Identify Assumptions

-Recognize Context

-Imagine or Explore Alternatives

-Develop Critical Reflection