

Seat No: _____

Enrollment No: _____

PARUL UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS
B.A, Winter 2017 – 18 Examination

Semester: 3

Subject Code: 15193202

Subject Name: Critical Thinking

Date: 18/12/2017

Time: 10:30am to 1:00pm

Total Marks: 60

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.
3. Make suitable assumptions wherever necessary.
4. Start new question on new page.

Q.1 Do as directed.

- (a) **Each of the questions below consists of a question and two statements/ assumptions/ conclusions /course of actions numbered I and II given below it. Read both the statements and then marks your answers as:** (12)

(A) If the data in statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action **I alone** follows/ is implicit/ is sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action II alone does not follow/ is not implicit/ is not sufficient to answer the question

(B) If the data in statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action **II alone** follows/ is implicit/ is sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action alone does not follow/ is not implicit/ is not sufficient to answer the question

(C) If the data **either** in statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action I alone or in statement II alone follows/ is implicit/ is sufficient to answer the question

(D) If the data given in both statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action I and II together are does not follow/ is not implicit/ is not sufficient to answer the question (**neither** I nor II) and

(E) If the data in both statements/ assumptions/ conclusions/ course of action I and II **together are necessary** to answer the question.

1. **Question:** How many doctors are practicing in this town ?

Statements: There is one doctor per seven hundred residents.

There are 16 wards with each ward having as many doctors as the number of wards.

2. **Statement:** It is desirable to put the child in school at the age of 5 or so.

Assumptions: At that age the child reaches appropriate level of development and is ready to learn.

The schools do not admit children after six years of age.

3. **Statements:** National Aluminum Company has moved India from a position of shortage to self-sufficiency in the metal.

Conclusions: Previously, India had to import aluminum.

With this speed, it can soon become a foreign exchange earner.

4. **Statement:** A large number of people die every year due to drinking polluted water during the summer.
Courses of Action: The government should make adequate arrangements to provide safe drinking water to all its citizens.
The people should be educated about the dangers of drinking polluted water.
5. **Statements:** A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
Conclusions: We should be content with what we have.
We should not crave for what is not.
6. **Statement:** Government has permitted unaided colleges to increase their fees.
Assumptions: Unaided colleges are in financial difficulties.
Aided colleges do not need to increase fees.
7. **Statement:** His recent investment in the shares of Company A is only a gamble.
Assumptions: He may incur loss on his investment.
He may gain from his investment.
8. **Statements:** Modern man influences his destiny by the choice he makes unlike in the past.
Conclusions: Earlier there were fewer options available to man.
There was no desire in the past to influence the destiny.
9. **Statement:** The Central Bureau of Investigation receives the complaint of an officer taking bribe to do the duty he is supposed to.
Courses of Action: CBI should try to catch the officer red-handed and then take a strict action against him.
CBI should wait for some more complaints about the officer to be sure about the matter.

Read the paragraph carefully and determine the main point the author is trying to make. What conclusion can be drawn from the argument? Each paragraph is followed by five statements. One statement supports the author's argument better than the others do.

10. Today's workforce has a new set of social values. Ten years ago, a manager who was offered a promotion in a distant city would not have questioned the move. Today, a manager in that same situation might choose family happiness instead of career advancement.
- A. most managers are not loyal to the corporations for which they work.
 - B. businesses today do not understand their employees needs.
 - C. employees social values have changed over the past ten years.
 - D. career advancement is not important to today's business managers.
 - E. companies should require their employees to accept promotions.
11. It is well known that the world urgently needs adequate distribution of food, so that everyone gets enough. Adequate distribution of medicine is just as urgent. Medical expertise and medical supplies need to be redistributed throughout the world so that people in emerging nations will have proper medical care.
- A. the majority of the people in the world have never been seen by a doctor.
 - B. food production in emerging nations has slowed during the past several years.

- C. most of the world's doctors are selfish about giving time and money to the poor.
 - D. the medical-supply industry should step up production of its products.
 - E. many people who live in emerging nations are not receiving proper medical care
12. Generation Xers are those people born roughly between 1965 and 1981. As employees, Generation Xers tend to be more challenged when they can carry out tasks independently. This makes Generation Xers the most entrepreneurial generation in history.

- A. work harder than people from other generations.
- B. have a tendency to be self-directed workers
- C. have an interest in making history
- D. tend to work in jobs that require risk-taking behavior.
- E. like to challenge their bosses work attitudes.

(b) **Answer in brief (Any 4 out of 5)** (08)

1. Draw an argument map for the following:
[a] This computer can think. So [b] it is conscious. Since [c] we should not kill any conscious beings, [d] we should not switch it off.
2. What are the fundamental steps of the **IDEAL** model of problem-solving?
3. What is Decision Making? Differentiate between the intuitive and reasoned process.
4. What are the benefits of group-oriented critical thinking?
5. Explain Deductive reasoning with the help of an example.

Q.2 Do as directed. (12)

a) Match the following: (Any 8 out of 10) (4 marks)

1. decision-making	a. are developed through everyday life and experience.
2. Intuition	b. is selective
3. Before making a decision	c. is a critical thinking standard
4. Critical thinking	d. is a formal way to make a point in academic writing
5. Integration	e. taking the information gathered from general observations and making specific decisions based on that information.
6. deductive reasoning	f. is a benefit of group –oriented critical thinking
7. An argument	g. all relevant information needs to be gathered
8. Creativity	h. act of choosing between two or more courses of action
9. Accuracy	i. using your ‘gut feeling’ about possible courses of action
10. Most problem-solving skills	j. is promoted by Critical Thinking

b) Fill in the blanks: (Any 8 out of 10) (4 marks)

1. The process of thinking about something, in a rational manner, so as to draw valid conclusions, is known as _____.

2. The word 'therefore' in an argument is what we call a _____.
3. _____ thinking is generative in purpose whereas _____ thinking is analytical in purpose.
4. There are solid benefits to engaging in _____ critical thinking, rather than individual critical thinking.
5. A good critical thinker knows how to separate _____ from opinions.
6. _____ is the capacity for a person to make sense of things to establish & verify facts.
7. Real critical thinking exercises seek the _____.
8. The final stage of problem solving is concerned with checking that the process was successful. This is called _____.
9. An argument consists of _____ parts.
10. A critical thinker is open-minded and welcomes _____.

C) State whether the following statements are True or False: (Any 8 out of 10) (4 marks)

1. If you do not have enough information, it can feel like you are making a decision without any basis.
2. Before making a decision, you need to be clear who is going to take responsibility for it.
3. Decisions can be made through either an intuitive or reasoned process, or a combination of the two.
4. The critical thinker does not remain calm and knows when he is right.
5. Inductive Reasoning is reasoning from a general principle, begins with a commonly accepted major premise.
6. The reasoning process confuses students and turns them into ineffective thinkers.
7. Analytical thinking aims to make an overall or holistic judgment about the data/information which is free from false premises or bias as much as possible.
8. A major advantage of the organic approach is that it is highly adaptable to understanding and explaining the chaotic changes that occur in projects and everyday life.
9. In order to begin analyzing an argument, you must first ask questions based on that evidence and then look at the evidence.
10. Relativistic Thinking can never hamper Critical Thinking.

Q.3 Read the following cases and answer the following questions. (Any 2 out of 3)

(12)

1. Crime and Punishment

In 1974, at the age of 19, Doris Drugdealer was arrested for selling \$200 worth of heroin to an undercover police officer in Michigan. She received a 10-20 year prison sentence for this crime. After serving about 8 months of her sentence, she decided that she could not tolerate prison and with the help of her grandfather, plotted an escape. She used a work pass to walk away from prison. In May, 2008, after 34 years, Doris was captured again by detectives who matched fingerprints from her driver's license to her prison records.

Doris said that in 1974 she was a "stupid little ...hippie-ish girl...a pothead." During the 34 years that Doris evaded prison, she worried everyday that she would be caught. While looking at a sunset, she would marvel at her freedom and wonder if the past would catch up with her. She was very careful to lead the life of a model citizen and even volunteered for Common Cause, an organization that promotes government ethics and accountability. She married an executive and had three children and lived a comfortable life in an upper middle class neighborhood in California. She never told her family about her past. Her husband of 23 years stated that he loved his wife as much as the day they were married and that she was a "person of the highest integrity and compassion" and had dedicated her life to raising her children. She taught her children to be responsible citizens and to avoid drugs. Her husband said that the arrest "was the next worst thing to having a death in the family." Doris worried about the effect of her arrest on her son who had just graduated from high school and her older daughters. A neighbor commented that it would not be useful to society to send Doris back to prison.

Undercover drug officers believed that Doris had connections to “higher ups” in the drug world and was a teenage leader in a 1070’s drug ring. They found \$600 in her apartment, paraphernalia for cutting heroin and pictures of her with other drug dealers. Doris described herself as a recent high school graduate who was strapped for cash, working at a minimum wage job and driving a \$400 car. She said that every day of her life she regretted getting herself into this situation. She was extradited back to Michigan to serve her original prison term. Her family and friends submitted a plea for clemency to the governor of Michigan. Should the governor grant her clemency?

a) Use your critical thinking to analyze this situation.

2. A Moral Dilemma

Stan’s son was extremely sick, but he had no money to take him to the hospital for treatment. He approached a friend to borrow money for the treatment, but the friend refused saying that he had heard a lot about Stan’s drinking habits and was sure that he was making up an excuse to buy more alcohol. Stan steals his friend’s money to take this son to the hospital.

a) Assume you are Stan. Explain why it was right for you to steal the money.

b) Assume you are the friend. Explain why it was right to refuse to lend money.

3. Critical Thinking about Your Decisions

a) Describe a major decision you face in your life right now.

b) Describe how you have made decisions in the past.

c) List five specific suggestions that help you think through your options and make your decision.

Q.4 Write Short Notes on: (Any 4 out of 5)

(16)

1. What is the meaning of argument? Explain the characteristics of an argument.
2. What is Critical Thinking? Discuss the Critical Thinking standards.
3. How is creative thinking different from critical thinking? Explain the characteristics of a Creative Thinker.
4. Explain the stages of problem-solving in detail.
5. What is Effective Decision Making? What are the barriers to Effective Decision Making?