

Introduction to Critical Thinking

Welcome to this worksheet on developing critical thinking skills to apply values in real-world scenarios. This worksheet is designed for 14-year-old students and aims to help you develop the skills and confidence to think critically and make informed decisions that align with your personal values.

1. What is critical thinking, and why is it important in everyday life?

2. Can you think of a time when you had to make a difficult decision? What factors did you consider, and how did you make your decision?

Values-Based Decision-Making

Consider the following questions:

1. What are some of your personal values, and how do they influence your decisions?

2. Consider a scenario where you have to choose between two options that conflict with your values. What would you do, and why?

Real-World Scenarios

Read the following scenario and answer the questions:

"A new store is opening in your town, but it will lead to the destruction of a local park. What do you think about this situation, and what would you do?"

1. What are the pros and cons of the new store opening?

2. How do your personal values influence your opinion on this issue?

Critical Thinking Exercises

Consider the following exercises:

1. A friend tells you that a certain brand of clothing is the best because it is expensive. What questions would you ask to evaluate this claim?

2. You read an article that claims that climate change is not real. What evidence would you look for to support or refute this claim?

Case Study Analysis

Read the following case study and answer the questions:

"A company is considering whether to invest in a new technology that could potentially harm the environment. What factors should the company consider, and what decision would you make?"

1. What are the potential consequences of the company's decision?

2. How do the company's values influence its decision-making process?

Group Discussion

Work in groups to discuss the following question:

"What are some ways to balance individual values with collective values in decision-making?"

1. What are some potential challenges in balancing individual and collective values?

2. How can we ensure that our decisions align with our personal values and promote the well-being of others?

Reflective Journaling

Write a reflective journal entry on the following prompt:

"Think about a time when you had to make a decision that conflicted with your values. What did you learn from the experience, and how has it influenced your decision-making process?"

Creative Thinking

Imagine you are a leader in your community, and you have to make a decision that affects everyone. What would you do, and why?

1. What values would you consider in making your decision?

2. How would you communicate your decision to the community?

Problem-Solving

Read the following scenario and answer the questions:

"A natural disaster has struck your community, and you have to make a decision about how to respond. What would you do, and why?"

1. What are the immediate needs of the community?

2. How would you prioritize resources and make decisions to support the community?

Conclusion

Reflect on what you have learned from this worksheet. How will you apply critical thinking and values-based decision-making in your everyday life?

1. What are some key takeaways from this worksheet?

2. How will you continue to develop your critical thinking skills and apply values in real-world scenarios?

