Daily Critical Analysis Skill Builders

Ask why

Asking why something is helps you develop a deeper awareness for the world around you and understanding for a scenario. So go on, start asking why – even if it sounds silly.

Why did you choose that outfit today? Why did you choose your superhero? Why did the dinosaurs die out? Why does the earth turn?

All whys are a valid way to explore the world around you.

Ask how

Asking how opens up your mind to the complexities of how things happen. Seeking the answer shows you the relationships and links between one thing and another.

How does the water boil? How does the flavour get from the tea into my cup? How is my shirt made?

The more you understand about how something works, the more complexity you see in the world.

Read something & analyse it.

Apply your new depth of understanding to a passage. Any passage will do. It could be a blog post, a newspaper article, a book, or even a social media post. Look for the why and how. Look for the links and relationships.

These links tell you a story as to what the person writing or editing the piece wants to tell you. Is it the truth? Is it a half-truth? Is it a lie?

What are their emotions, thoughts, and beliefs behind writing it? And what does that tell you of their world?