

2.02: Students Use Critical Thinking Skills to Make Informed Decisions and Solve Problems

Levels of Performance

Criteria	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Beginning (1)
Identification of a Goal	Identifies a goal that reflects careful and thorough consideration of the key elements of the situation.	Identifies a goal that reflects consideration of the key elements of the situation.	Identifies a goal that reflects a cursory consideration of the key elements of the situation.	Makes little effort to identify a goal.
Identification of a Constraint or Limiting Condition	Identifies all constraints and limiting conditions that are clearly related to the goal.	Identifies all constraints or limiting conditions that are related to the goal.	Identifies some of the constraints or limiting conditions that are not immediately apparent.	Does not identify constraints or limiting conditions that are not immediately apparent.
Impact of Constraints or Limiting Conditions	Explains in a highly detailed, accurate and insightful manner the impact of the constraints and limiting conditions on achievement of the goal in a way that reflects an in-depth, thorough understanding of the situation.	Accurately explains the impact of the constraints or limiting conditions on achievement of the goal that reflects a basic understanding of the situation.	Explains the impact of the constraints or limiting conditions on the achievement of the goal in a way that reflects some confusion about the situation.	Explains the impact of the constraints or limiting conditions on the achievement of the goal in a way that reflects significant confusion about the situation.
Overcoming Constraints and Meeting Conditions	Identifies creative but plausible ways of overcoming the constraints and meeting the limiting conditions that reflect an in-depth, thorough understanding of the situation.	Identifies creative but plausible ways of overcoming the constraints and meeting the limiting conditions that address all constraints and limiting conditions and reflect a basic understanding of the situation.	Identifies ways of overcoming the constraints or meeting the limiting conditions that address only some of the important elements and may reflect some confusion about the situation.	Identifies ways of overcoming the constraints or meeting the limiting conditions that probably will not help overcome the problem.
Selection and Application of Problem Solution	Engages in an effective, valid, and exhaustive trial of selected alternative problem solutions that go beyond that required to solve the problem; reflects an in-depth understanding of the situation.	Engages in an effective and valid trial of the selected problem solution that reflects an understanding of the situation.	Engages in a trial of the selected problem solution that reflects some confusion about the situation.	Engages in an incomplete or ineffective trial of the selected problem solution that reflects significant confusion about the situation.
Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Problem Solution	Thoroughly and in a highly detailed manner evaluate the effectiveness of the selective problem solution from many different points of view and describes how the problem solution overcomes the constraints and limiting conditions.	Evaluates the effectiveness of the selective problem solution and describes how the problem solution overcomes the constraints or limiting conditions.	Evaluates the effectiveness of the selective problem solution in a cursory manner and describes how the problem solution overcomes the constraints or limiting conditions.	Makes little effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the selected problem solution or to describe how the solution overcomes the constraints or limiting conditions.