How Do I Get Them to Think?

Critical Thinking Institute
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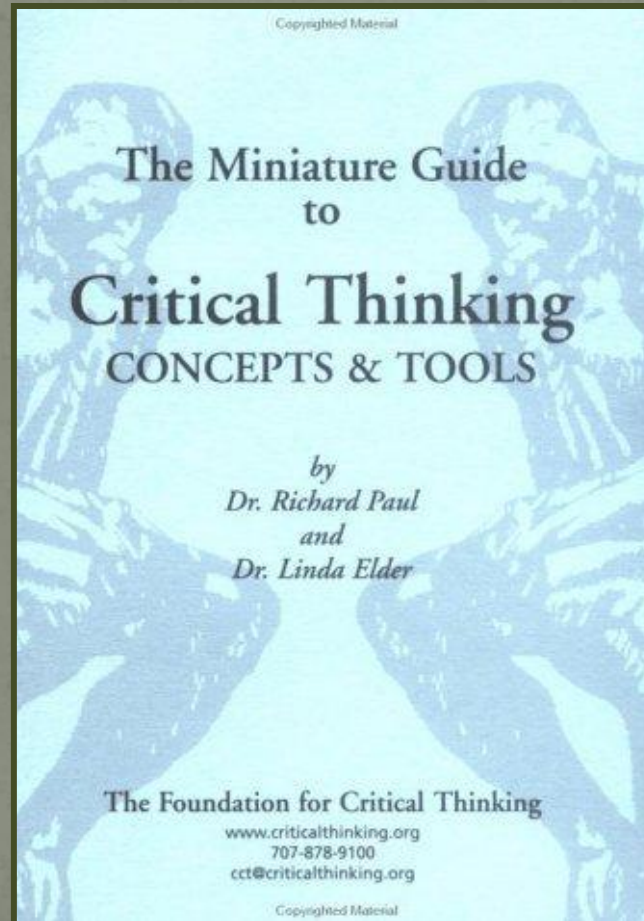George Greenlee
Gail Lancaster

Game Plan

- Consider Elements, Standards and Intellectual Traits identified by Paul and Elder
- Ten Strategies to Teach for Critical Thinking
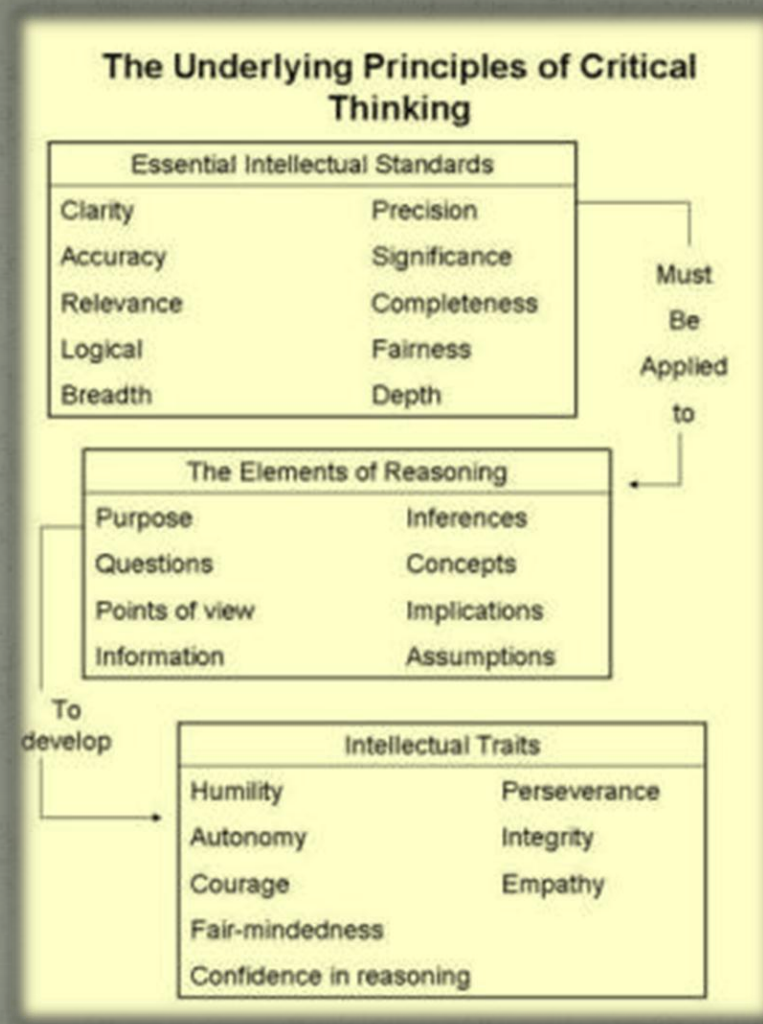
SPC's Definition of Critical Thinking

The active and systematic process of communication, problem solving, evaluation, analysis, synthesis, and reflection, both individually and in community, to foster understanding, support sound decision-making, and guide action.

Paul and Elder:
The underlying Principles of Critical Thinking

Paul and Elder:

The Underlying Principles of Critical Thinking

Essential Intellectual Standards

Clarity	Precision
Accuracy	Significance
Relevance	Completeness
Logical	Fairness
Breadth	Depth

Must Be Applied to

The Elements of Reasoning

Purpose	Inferences
Questions	Concepts
Points of view	Implications
Information	Assumptions

To develop

Intellectual Traits

Humility	Perseverance
Autonomy	Integrity
Courage	Empathy
Fair-mindedness	
Confidence in reasoning	

The essential question...

- What do we need to do as educators to encourage critical thinking?

Top 10 strategies to teach for Critical Thinking

Guido

1. Create a safe environment

2. Get students to know each other

3. Assign reading to be done outside of class

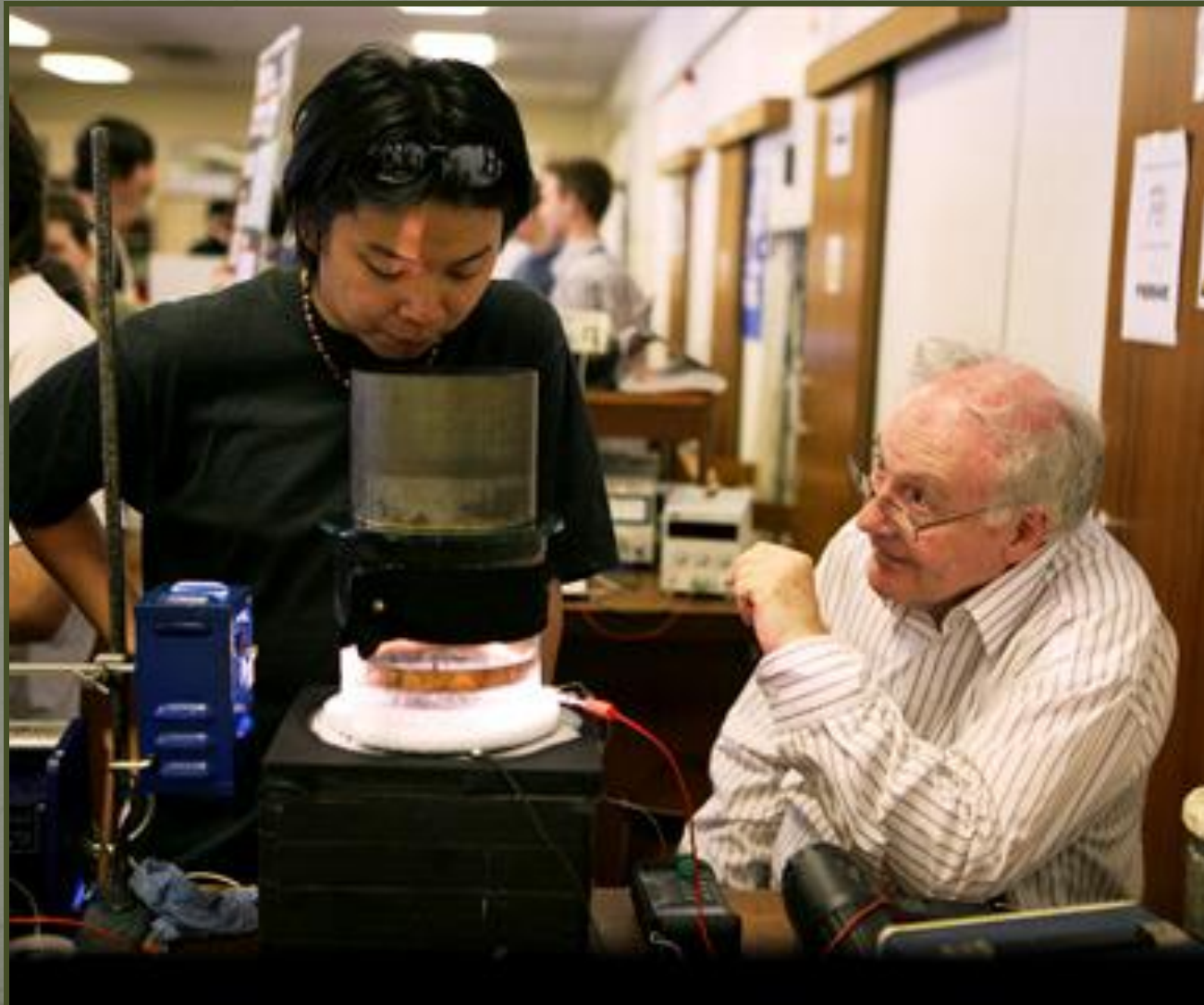# 4. Conduct five minute quiz at the beginning of each class on assignment

5. Lecture no more than 20% of the total class time

6. Involve all students in discussions

7. Ask Essential Questions

8. Employ Socratic questioning

9. Ask students to write the logic of an article or paragraph or chapter in the text

10. Relate the current topic or course to the whole (system, discipline)

What's Next?

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