ного процесса приобретать умения и навыки, необходимые для полноценной жизни и плодотворной деятельности в современном информационном обществе, адаптироваться к условиям его стремительного развития, оперативно реализовывать свои потребности в информации и информационных продуктах и услугах, постоянно расширять горизонты познания.

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Critical thinking as a way of dealing with information

Способность мыслить критически является одной из базовых компетенций современного специалиста в любой сфере деятельности. Умение ориентироваться в постоянно растущих потоках информации, обобщать и анализировать получаемые данные, адекватно их оценивать и принимать логические и непредвзятые решения является сегодня требованием времени. В статье дается оценка важности наличия данной компетенции, описываются основные этапы критического мышления, а также рассматриваются вопросы, связанные с формированием умений и навыков мыслить критически.

Ключевые слова: навыки критического мышления, информационные потоки, суждение, оценка, саморазвитие, решение проблемы

The ability to think critically is one of the basic competencies of a modern specialist in any sphere of activity. The ability to navigate in the ever–growing flows of information, summarize and analyze the received data, adequately evaluate them and make logical and unbiased decisions is a requirement of time today. The article assesses the importance of having this competence, describes the main stages of critical thinking, and considers issues related to the formation of critical thinking skills.

Keywords: critical thinking skills, information flows, judgment, evaluation, self-development, relevance, problem solving

One of the goals of modern education is to meet the actual and prospective needs of the individual, society and the state, to educate a diversely developed personality capable of self-education and self-improvement. In order to be successful, competitive and in demand in a dynamically developing society, a modern specialist

needs to be constantly engaged in self-development, self-education and self–improvement. Regardless of the direction of his professional activity and accumulated experience, a person must have well-developed critical thinking skills. Lack of these skills can have a serious impact on professional career and life, as the consequences of the inability to effectively process and analyze information can be very significant. According to the head of the School of Critical Thinking, N. Nepryakhin, "Critical thinking is a system of judgments that is used to analyze things, phenomena, and events and then draw objective conclusions [2]".

In other words, critical thinking is the analysis of a problem or situation and related facts, data or evidence, and ideally it should be objective, i.e. free from the influence of personal feelings, opinions or biases. Nowadays, against the backdrop of ever–increasing flows of information, the ability to think critically is more important than ever. The ability to "filter" the information that surrounds us, to distinguish the true from the inaccurate or outright false, requires the purposeful development of rules of behavior, rules of thinking that allow a person to maneuver in the modern information environment with the maximum degree of safety. If a person does not learn to think critically, to treat the information received with doubt, to justify his criticism and offer his own arguments and arguments, he will not only reduce his chances for professional, social and personal growth, but will also become much more vulnerable to such phenomena as manipulation and fraud.

The development of critical thinking skills requires focused work aimed at developing observation, the ability to thoughtfully study information, apply analytical skills, think independently, orderly and consistently, justify one's point of view, and communicate it competently and logically to others. Having critical thinking skills and abilities allows a person to navigate the cause-and-effect relationships between various events, concepts and ideas, quickly and effectively analyze information and other people's judgments, determine their relevance, record errors and inconsistencies, form their own judgments and arguments, make logical and reasonable decisions, and evaluate them.

The development and improvement of critical thinking skills is ongoing, but special attention should be paid to these processes at the stage of personality formation, development of key competencies and a person's life position. That is why educational organizations play a significant role in the development of critical thinking skills. In the course of the educational process, transition to the next stage of personal development, students acquire the ability to orient themselves in the received information, to comprehend it and apply it in practice to solve problems, i.e. they actively form the ability to critically evaluate information. Formation of students' critical thinking skills allows motivating them to acquire new knowledge, develop interest in the educational process, stimulate learning and research activities, increase responsibility for the results of their own learning activities, that is, it helps to optimize the educational process and improve the quality of education in general.

The first step in the process of building critical thinking skills is to identify, define the problem or situation and the factors that can influence it, and it is very important to clearly formulate the problem, understand the purpose of its solution, which will facilitate the critical evaluation of the information necessary for this. The next stage is to research the problem or situation, that is, to gather information, scrutinize the proposed arguments, their relevance. At this stage, the ability to conduct independent research is key, as the facts and figures needed to solve the problem may either not be available or may come from questionable sources. Determining relevance appears to be one of the most difficult stages of critical thinking.

The best course of action at this stage is independent verification, i.e. the ability to evaluate and compare sources of information during the search for information, assess whether they are trustworthy, determine their relevance and authenticity, and give preference to the most reliable ones. A critical thinker, when solving a problem, should always rely on an adequate evidence base, in other words, his arguments should be supported by confirmed facts, data of statistical and scientific studies, references to specific experience. Much attention should be paid to such an issue as objectivity of evaluation of information in the sources chosen for argumentation, as well as the exclusion of one's own bias and prejudices that can affect the judgment and arguments. This is where, among other things, the ability to look at a problem from different perspectives, as well as the ability to argue with one's own thoughts and assumptions, lies.

An important step in learning critical thinking skills is the ability to extrapolate information and draw inferences, keeping in mind that not all inferences will be correct. An inference is an educated guess, and the ability to draw correct conclusions can be achieved by making a conscious effort to gather and analyze as much information as possible before drawing a conclusion. When critically evaluating a situation or problem, it makes sense to explore other points of view, which will help you see other options for solving the problem, evaluate and compare your arguments with them, and make an informed decision.

The use of the technology of critical thinking development in the educational process allows to realize problem tasks, information-seeking tasks and algorithms; to introduce into the educational process a system of independent information-cognitive increasingly complex tasks, situations and projects that require a certain skill of searching for necessary information. Introduction of techniques of critical thinking development in the educational environment, their active mastering and utilization in practice allows students to navigate more confidently in the updating information flow and create a context for successful professional training, which contributes to the formation of information and cognitive independence and literacy of the future specialist [3].

Here are some advantages of using techniques of critical thinking development: all participants of the educational process develop responsibility for the quality of learning outcomes; gain experience in working with various sources of information; develop the skill to form their own judgments based on reinterpreting various ideas

and perceptions; the ability to build a logical chain and argue one's position; improve creativity and non-standard thinking [1].

Thus, in the conditions of informatization of society only with the presence of critical thinking skills and abilities, that is, thinking flexibly and orderly, making balanced and consistent decisions, systematically and impartially researching and evaluating information, owning analysis and synthesis, it is possible to come to at the correct solution of the problem posed. In order to develop students' ability to think critically, the educator must be creative in his own approach to the teaching process, using innovative methods and techniques that meet the needs of today's students.

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К вопросу о профессионально значимых качествах личности педагога в контексте его роли в управлении образовательным процессом

Профессиональная компетентность преподавателя определяется наличием у него целого ряда профессионально-педагогических умений и профессионально значимых качеств личности. Добиться высоких результатов в обучении, воспитании и развитии обучающихся, направить их деятельность по траектории саморазвития и самообразования может только творческая личность, владеющая инновационными педагогическими технологиями, индивидуальным стилем работы, обладающая высокой общей и профессиональной культурой, нацеленная на достижение максимально эффективных результатов своей педагогической деятельности.

Ключевые слова: преподаватель, образовательный процесс, управление, эффективность, профессионализм