



**STRATHMORE INSTITUTE
DIPLOMA IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
DIR 1103/ DE 1103: INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THINKING**

DATE: 11th April 2019

Time: 2 Hours

Instructions

1. This examination consists of FOUR questions.
2. Answer Question ONE (COMPULSORY) and any other TWO questions.
3. The exam is will be graded over 60 marks and is worth 60% of the final grade for the unit.

Question One [30 marks]:

a. Define the following terms [5 x 2m = 10 marks]:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Emotional intelligence
3. Divergent thinking
4. Confirmation bias
5. Emotion

b. Choose the most correct answer [10 x 1m = 10 marks]:

1. The following is not divergent thinking
 - i. Analysis of a problem
 - ii. Imagining a solution
 - iii. Seeking out the unusual
 - iv. Exploring possibilities
2. The human intellect
 - i. Does not engage with reason
 - ii. Develops abstract concepts
 - iii. Has no relation with the real world
 - iv. Is the same as the body
3. How does an emotion evolve?
 - i. Mental change, behaviour, stimulus, physical change
 - ii. Physical change, stimulus, mental change, behaviour
 - iii. Stimulus, behavior, physical change, mental change
 - iv. Stimulus, mental change, physical change, behavior
4. Human personality depends on:
 - i. The character with which we are born
 - ii. The temperament we develop
 - iii. Inborn temperament and character developed

- iv. Inborn character and temperament developed
- 5. In emotional intelligence, which of the following demonstrates self-management:
 - i. Effective communication
 - ii. A positive attitude
 - iii. Recognition of others
 - iv. A sense of teamwork
- 6. The concupiscible appetite:
 - i. Involves hunger and thirst
 - ii. Moves towards easy goods
 - iii. Is a rational function
 - iv. Tends to good things that are hard
- 7. Barriers to critical thinking:
 - i. Lateral thinking, initiative
 - ii. Ego, group think
 - iii. Selflessness, humility
 - iv. Open mind, patience
- 8. Human will:
 - i. Wants good things guided by the intellect
 - ii. Does not need any external stimulus
 - iii. Is totally independent of the intellect
 - iv. Is all powerful in the person
- 9. The following does not help build creativity:
 - i. Listening to conversations
 - ii. Getting lost
 - iii. Staying plugged into technology
 - iv. Playing music you don't like
- 10. Empathy
 - i. Involves nice feelings towards others
 - ii. Being aware of my own feelings
 - iii. Depends on how others treat me
 - iv. Means living in another person's world
- c. Indicate which domain of emotional intelligence, or its absence, is illustrated in the following scenarios [4 x 1m = 4 marks]:
 - 1. Jane was chosen as class rep because her peers know she will act to ensure their well-being:
 - 2. Tom recently realised that he gets anxious when surrounded by many people:
 - 3. I don't know why, but I get so upset when my friends let me down:
 - 4. Mary is good at knowing the mood her friends are in:
- d. Answer the following questions:
 - 1. Name and discuss two skills required for good critical thinking [2 x 2m = 4 marks].

2. Indicate the curiosity tip which you practiced during the semester and explain the impact it may have had on you [2 marks].

Question Two [15 marks]:

- a. Read this text and answer the questions below [6 marks]:

CQ stands for curiosity quotient and concerns having a [hungry mind](#). People with higher CQ are more inquisitive and open to new experiences. They find novelty exciting and are quickly bored with routine. They tend to generate many original ideas and are counter-conformist. It has not been as deeply studied as EQ and IQ, but there's some evidence to suggest it is just as important when it comes to managing complexity in two major ways. First, individuals with higher CQ are generally more [tolerant of ambiguity](#). This nuanced, sophisticated, subtle thinking style defines the very essence of complexity. Second, CQ leads to higher levels of [intellectual investment](#) and knowledge acquisition over time, especially in formal domains of education, such as science and art (note: this is of course different from IQ's measurement of raw intellectual horsepower). Knowledge and expertise, much like experience, translate complex situations into familiar ones, so CQ is the ultimate tool to produce simple solutions for complex problems. <https://hbr.org/2014/08/curiosity-is-as-important-as-intelligence>

- i. Define curiosity and explain its' role in creative and critical thinking [3 marks].
- ii. According to the article, what are the benefits of curiosity in problem solving [3 marks]?

- b. Answer the following questions [7 marks]:

- i. Is creativity inborn or can it be developed [1m]?
- ii. What type of thinking is involved in creative thinking [1m]?
- iii. In what ways could you use creative thinking in the world of business or international relations [2m]?
- iv. Make a different sentence using each letter of this word as the first letter of each word in the sentence: PLY [3m].

Question Three [15 marks]

- a. Identify [2m] and explain [3m] the barrier to critical thinking in the following case [4 marks]:

Washington Post Columnist Dana Milbank has had it with Donald Trump. "Let's not mince words: [Donald Trump is a bigot and a racist](#)," he wrote in his [most recent column for the Washington Post](#). "You get to some point when it's not just a bigoted action or a racist action, you don't know what is in the man's heart - of course we don't know what's in the man's heart - but when you establish a pattern like this over a very long period of time. and frankly it's going back a quarter century, I think you need to say and call the man what he is and he is: A racist and he is a bigot," Milbank said on [CBSN](#), CBS News' digital network. "The vast majority of people in America do not accept what Donald Trump is doing," Milbank said on CBSN. "Now am I saying that every Donald Trump supporter is a racist or a bigot? No, of course not." He said Trump is appealing to "an older, white, less-educated segment of society...people who are feeling very anxious and very angry about the direction the economy has taken and are feeling they're being left behind in America." Milbank said that he's heard from a lot of Trump supporters who are calling him names in response to the column. "I guess if I'm going to call names I should expect that to come back at me. I generally disapprove of name-calling but I

think you need to call a spade a spade here," he said.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/washington-post-dana-milbank-calls-donald-trump-racist-bigot/> [2nd December 2015].

b. Read and answer the questions below [10 marks]:

A rare natural phenomenon which makes it look like wheels of snow have been rolled on their own has been captured in photos. Six rare "snow rollers" were spotted by Brian Bayliss in Wiltshire. He said he spotted them in a field he owns and at first thought they had been manmade but there were no footprints. It is thought the bales are formed when wind conditions are ideal to blow chunks of snow along, picking up more snow along the way. Forestry worker Mr Bayliss, 51, said he had "never seen anything like it before" and when he got closer he "could see the sun through the middle, and they just made no sense". He captured the images shortly after sunrise on Saturday. BBC weatherman Ian Fergusson said it was "very rare" that conditions were so perfect that snow rollers could be formed. "These are truly beautiful photos of a very rare meteorological phenomenon - called snow rollers or snow bales. Brian was very lucky to see these," Mr Fergusson said. "Conditions have to be just right for snow rollers to occur: a smooth, un-vegetated hillside, such as in this case near Marlborough, enhances the chance of them being formed. "A layer of thin snow, settled atop existing ice and not sticking to it, combined with specific temperature, moisture level and wind speed, are fundamental to the creation of these natural oddities." If the wind is too strong, or too weak, or the snow is too tightly packed, snow rollers will not form. The resulting snowballs look like a hay bale, a doughnut or a Swiss roll, and can be hollow inside.



- i. Identify [1m] and explain [3m] any relevant critical thinking system to analyse the above text [4 marks].
- ii. Apply the chosen system to critically analyse the article above [6 marks].

Question Four [15 marks]:

- a. Explain the nature and benefits of convergent thinking [2 marks].
- b. Design a problem that would need to be solved using convergent thinking and explain how the problem could be solved [3 marks].
- c. Design a problem that would need to be solved using divergent thinking and explain how the problem could be solved [3 marks].

- d. Use the *back and forth thinking model* to analyse the following problem in 7 steps [7 marks]

An employee irritates you but that he does excellent work. Your business will benefit from having efficient employees. If your morale is affected by having an employee you truly dislike, you need to assess whether the value of that person's work is worth your discomfort and frustration, and what options you have.