

IDEALS CRITICAL THINKING STRATEGIES

IDEALS encourages students to be purposeful, reasonable, and goal-oriented in their thinking in order to make decisions, formulate inferences, and solve problems.

I DENTIFY

Identify the problem.
What is the real question/problem?
Clearly identify all components of the problem.



D EFINE

Define the context.
What are the relevant facts and circumstances that frame this problem?
Brainstorm possible solutions to the problem.



E NUMERATE

Enumerate the choices.
What are the most plausible options?
Evaluate the viability of each solution.



A NALYZE

Analyze the options.
What is the best course of action?
Make a list of pros and cons for each solution.



L IST

List reasons explicitly.
Why is this the best course of action?
Choose the solution that potentially works the best.



S ELF-CORRECT

Look at it again... What did I miss?
Evaluate the solution after it is in place.

