**Keys to Critical Thinking**

**Asking questions:**
- How do I know?
- How is this situation similar and different from the previous ones?
- Where did I get my information?
- What standards am I using to assess my judgments?
- How will I know my judgments are accurate?

**Reflecting:**
- Take time to stop and think about what is going on
- Evaluate your state of mind
- Be prepared to explain your reasoning
- Think ahead to the next step

**Check your attitude and willingness to:**
- Respect intuition as well as traditional thought
- Contemplate more than one approach and weigh the impact of each
- Consider other points of view, even when disagreeing
- Change opinion in the light of new evidence
- Take a position and defend it

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**ROADBLOCKS TO CRITICAL THINKING:**

*The Usual Suspects*

When two things appear related, we often assume one causes the other.

We judge an outcome as likely if it is representative of the population under consideration.

Unusual cases influence our judgment of their probability.

We estimate the probability of a situation based on how readily we can think of examples of that situation.

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Text adapted from:
Hansten (2000);
Hansten & Washburn (1998);
Fowler (1998) in JNSD.