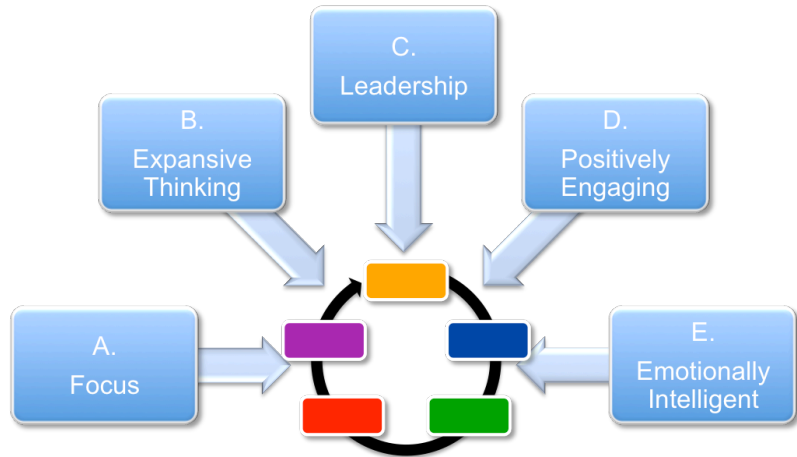


# Critical Thinking Worksheet

Making decisions is a critical and ongoing part of the Leadership Group function and underpins both organizational and individual success. The impact of each decision will vary with the situation but our formal systems are designed to maximize efficiency, predictability, consistency, logic, and defensibility of those decisions.

Making an effective decision within ever-present time constraints and lack of information requires **critical thinking**. For our purposes, critical thinking plays a role across multiple components of what Andrea Groenewald identified in her “Five Stars of a Winning Leader” program. In our experience, successful critical thinkers manage their unconscious primal bias (monkey brain) from impacting their decision-making framework primarily through **emotional intelligence** and **expansive thinking**.



The purpose of this worksheet is to systematically analysis our five (5) components to validate we're thinking critically.

A. Focus	Hard Working, Ambitious, Reliable	We're thinking critically when...	...we recognize productivity isn't about how busy or efficient we are but how much we accomplish.	
	Workmanlike Diligence		...we understand professional competency is achieved through experience and mentoring.	
			...we accept each situation must be evaluated on it's own – do not rely upon templates or simple solutions.	
B. Expansive Thinking	Outside the Box		...we consider a variety of possible viewpoints or perspectives	
			...we accept new priorities in response to a re-evaluation of the evidence or re-assessment of our real interests.	
	Open to New Experiences		...we accept a new explanation, model, or paradigm because it explains the evidence better, is simpler, or has fewer inconsistencies or covers more data.	
			...we do not reject unpopular views out of hand.	
			...we remain open to alternative interpretations.	
			...we practice the “art” of being flexible.	
C. Leadership	Flexible		...we interact with individuals in a manner that works best for them.	
			...we don't boss our team around, rather we remove our ego & support them.	
	Humble		...we treat people as we would want to be treated.	
		...when we accept and acknowledge our mistakes.		
	Confidence	...we lead by example especially when everyone else doesn't know what to do.		

<b>C. Leadership</b>	Confidence	<b>We're thinking critically when...</b>	...we believe in ourselves but avoid the perception of a know-it-all.	
			...we remain calm when everyone else is stressed to ensure we're approachable.	
	...we accept not everyone will always agree with us.			
Passion & Vision	...we inject fuel when everyone is out of gas to inspire.			
<b>D. Positively Engaging</b>	Active Listening		...we're present during conversations.	
			...we hear what may be needed but not verbally asked for.	
	Think "We" not "Me"		...we attempt to overcome the isolation of individually supporting clients.	
			...we establish conditions for individual success.	
			...we promote collaboration & collective knowledge/ideas.	
			...we gain satisfaction from the success of others.	
	Compassion & Empathy		...we recognize & accommodate others needs to set the conditions for success.	
			...we have patience & flexibility to execute while factoring individual needs.	
<b>E. Emotionally Intelligent</b>	Self Awareness		... we weigh the influences of motives & bias.	
			...we recognize our own assumptions, prejudices, biases, &/or point of views.	
	Managing Emotions	...we rely on reason rather than emotion.		
		...we avoid snap judgments.		
	Motivation	...we're active & continually question our own assumptions & reasons.		
		...we're precise, meticulous, comprehensive, & exhaustive.		
		...we're concerned more with finding the best explanation than being right.		
		...we're skeptical, require evidence, & follow evidence where it leads.		
	Empathy	...we resist manipulation & irrational appeals from others & recognize emotional impulses, selfish motives, &/or nefarious intent.		
	Social Skills	...we consciously apply strategies to uncover meaning or ensure our understanding.		