

Literacy Task: Critical Thinking and Teamwork in the Workplace Exploration of Organizational Leadership and Marketing

Writing Prompt (Must incorporate and be relevant to the business/industry in which you worked and must require students to read two texts to complete).

Students will read texts and answer questions. They will examine the relationship of understanding others, examine problem solving and critical thinking skills, distinguish the aspects of successful teamwork.

Text 1: What Critical Thinking is and why it is important in the workplace

Text 2: When Teamwork at Work Fails: Too Much “Team” and Not Enough “Work”?

Text 3: Why is Teamwork Important?

Common Core State Standards

List the Common Core State Standards associated with your task.

CCSS Reading Standards

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to the precise details of explanations or descriptions.
2. Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; trace the text’s explanation or depiction of a complex process, phenomenon, or concept; provide an accurate summary of the text.

Exploration of Organizational Leadership and Marketing CTE Standard 3.0

The student will explore the interpersonal skills needed in marketing and organizational leadership.

Learning Expectations

The student will:

- 3.1 Analyze the importance of interpersonal skills.
- 3.2 Examine techniques for problem solving.
- 3.3 Assess the importance of teamwork in leadership.

Performance Indicators: Evidence Standard Is Met

The student:

- 3.1 Examines the relationship of understanding others.
- 3.2 Examines problem solving and critical thinking skills.

3.3 Distinguishes the aspects of successful teamwork.

Essential Understandings

What key insights should students take from participating in this task?

Students will analyze the importance of interpersonal skills in the workplace. Examine techniques for problem solving and assess the importance of teamwork in both leadership and the workplace.

Text Dependent Questions

At least 5 open-ended text dependent questions.

- *If you were a production worker at a local industry and there was an issue with the finished product would you as a worker feel compelled to assist in solving the issue? Would it be best to assist or not? Give reasons for your answer.*
- *What steps would you follow in decision making if you had a make a decision for your employer? Would these steps be different if you were making a decision for your personal use? Which decision would be more difficult?*
- *List and explain the benefits of working as a team.*
- *Do you feel working alone is better why or why not?*
- *What are the advantages and disadvantages of utilizing the STAR model in the creation of teams?*

Texts

Links to two texts used. Include a brief synopsis (2-3 sentences describing the texts).

<http://www.the-happy-manager.com/articles/why-is-teamwork-important/>

Teamwork is when a group of persons with common interests and responsibilities work to accomplish a certain task. Teamwork creates synergy and gives employees a sense of achievement and supports motivation in the workplace.

<http://www.busandman.com/?p=18>

Critical Thinking: Thinking that includes problem solving, decision making, critical thinking, logical reasoning and creative thinking are imperative to have in the workplace. For a worker, critical thinking skills can improve their performance. This also allows a person to make good decisions on important social, political and economic issues.

<http://www.the-happy-manager.com/articles/teamwork-at-work/>

The STAR Model of teamwork is developed and used in the workplace. These include: individuals are able to develop their strengths, building relationships that are effective in teamwork, align the team through communication, and achieves results that are meaningful and relevant.