



1st semester

Topic 6:

Vocabulary: Thinking and learning



What is **thinking and learning**?



Learning by thinking refers to the **construction of cognitive artifacts and mental models of both simple and complex systems.** They aim at the explanation and simulation of transactions in a complex system and thus lead to thought experiments.

Vocabulary related to Thinking and learning



Topic vocabulary: Thinking

assess (v)

assume (v)

baffle (v)

biased (adj)

concentrate (v)

consider (v)

contemplate (v)

cynical (adj)

deduce (v)

deliberate (v)

dilemma (n)

discriminate (v)

dubious (adj)

estimate (v, n)

faith (n)

gather (v)

genius (n)

grasp (v)

guesswork (n)

hunch (n)

ideology (n)

ingenious (adj)

inspiration (n)

intuition (n)

justify (v)

naïve (adj)

notion (n)

optimistic (adj)

paradox (n)

pessimistic (adj)

plausible (adj)

ponder (v)

prejudiced (adj)

presume (v)

query (v, n)

reckon (v)

reflect (v)

sceptical/skeptical (adj)

speculate (v)

suppose (v)



assess (v)

to judge or decide the amount, value, quality, or importance of something

assume (v)

to accept something to be true without question or proof

baffle (v)

to cause someone to be completely unable to understand or explain something

biased (adj)

showing an unreasonable like or dislike for a person based on personal opinions



concentrate (v)

to direct your attention or your efforts towards a particular activity, subject, or problem

consider (v)

to spend time thinking about a possibility or making a decision

contemplate (v)

to spend time considering a possible future action, or to consider one particular thing for a long time in a serious and quiet way

cynical (adj)

believing that people are only interested in themselves and are not sincere



deduce (v)

to reach an answer or a decision by thinking carefully about the known facts

deliberate (v)

to think or talk seriously and carefully about something

dilemma (n)

a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two different things you could do

discriminate (v)

to treat a person or particular group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people



dubious (adj)

thought not to be completely true or not able to be trusted

estimate (v,n)

to guess or calculate the cost, size, value, etc. of something

faith (n)

great trust or confidence in something or someone

gather (v)

to collect several things, often from different places or people



genius (n)

very great and rare natural ability or skill, especially in a particular area such as science or art, or a person who has this

grasp (v)

understand

guesswork (n)

the process of making a guess when you do not know all the facts

hunch (n)

an idea that is based on feeling and for which there is no proof



ideology (n)

a set of beliefs or principles, especially one on which a political system, party, or organization is based

ingenious (adj)

very intelligent and skillful

inspiration (n)

someone or something that gives you ideas for doing something

intuition (n)

an ability to understand or know something immediately based on your feelings rather than facts



Topic vocabulary: Learning

academic (n, adj)	graduate (v, n)	intensive (adj)	self-study (n)
conscientious (adj)	ignorant (adj)	knowledgeable (adj)	seminar (n)
cram (v)	inattentive (adj)	lecture (v, n)	special needs (n phr)
curriculum (n)	intellectual (n, adj)	mock exam (n phr)	tuition (n)
distance learning (n phr)	intelligent (adj)	plagiarise (v)	tutorial (n)



academic (n, adj)

relating to schools, colleges, and universities, or connected with studying and thinking, not with practical skills

conscientious (adj)

putting a lot of effort into your work

cram (v)

to try to learn a lot very quickly before an exam

curriculum (n)

the subjects studied in a school, college, etc. and what each subject includes



distance learning (n phr)

a way of studying, especially for a degree, where you study mostly at home, receiving and sending off work by post or over the internet

graduate (v,n)

a person who has a first degree from a university or college

ignorant (adj)

not having enough knowledge, understanding, or information about something

inattentive (adj)

not giving attention to someone or something



intellectual (n, adj)

relating to your ability to think and understand things, especially complicated ideas

intelligent (adj)

showing intelligence, or able to learn and understand things easily

intensive (adj)

involving a lot of effort or activity in a short period of time

knowledgable (adj)

knowing a lot

lecture (v, n)

a formal talk on a serious subject given to a group of people, especially students



mock exam (n phr)

an examination, where the marks may or may not count, which serves chiefly as practice for future exams or so that the teachers are able to set a grade before the end of term.

plagiarise (v)

to use another person's ideas or work and pretend that it is your own

self-study (n)

a way of learning about a subject that involves studying alone at home, rather than in a classroom with a teacher

seminar (n)

an occasion when a teacher or expert and a group of people meet to study and discuss something



special needs (n phr)

the particular things needed by or provided to help people who have an illness or condition that makes it difficult for them to do the things that other people do

tuition (n)

teaching, especially when given to a small group or one person, such as in a college or university

tutorial (n)

a period of study with a tutor involving one student or a small group

Phrasal verbs

brush up (on)	practise and improve your skills or knowledge of something	piece together	learn the truth about something by considering all the separate bits of information you have
come (a)round (to)	change your opinion or decision because someone has persuaded you to agree with them	puzzle out	solve a confusing or complicated problem by thinking carefully about it
come up with	think of something such as an idea or a plan	read up (on/about)	get information on a particular subject by reading a lot about it
face up to	accept something and try to deal with it	swot up (on)	study something very hard, especially for an examination
figure out	be able to understand something or solve a problem; understand what someone is like and why they behave in the way they do	take in	understand and remember something that you hear or read; accept something as real or true; trick someone into believing something that is not true
hit upon	suddenly have an idea; discover something by chance	think over	consider a problem or decision carefully
make out	see, hear or understand someone or something with difficulty; suggest, imply	think through	consider the facts about something in an organised and thorough way
mull over	think carefully about something over a period of time	think up	invent or imagine something, especially an excuse