

## INCREASE STUDENTS' CREATIVE THINKING THROUGH READING

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**Abstract:** In the twenty-first century, students' critical thinking talents are crucial to overcoming challenges and increasing societal impediments, particularly among students. This project sought to improve ESP the critical thinking of learners abilities.

**Keywords:** critical thinking, educational sphere, ESP students, exposing students,

Divergent thinking, convergent thinking, lateral thinking, critical thinking, and associative thinking.

Increasing students' creative thinking through reading is essential in today's educational environment. By exposing students to a wide range of literature, they can expand their imagination and think critically about the world around them. Reading not only enhances students' vocabulary and comprehension skills but also encourages them to think outside the box and come up with innovative ideas. Therefore, educators need to prioritize reading in the curriculum to foster creativity and enhance students' overall learning experience.

Creative thinking is the ability to generate new and innovative ideas, solutions, and approaches to problems. It involves looking at things from different perspectives, making connections between seemingly unrelated concepts, and thinking outside the box. Creative thinking often involves breaking away from conventional thinking patterns and being open to exploring new possibilities. It is a valuable skill that can help individuals come up with original solutions and approaches in various aspects of life, such as work, problem-solving, and personal development.

Exposing students to a diverse range of literature helps them to see the world from different perspectives and gain a deeper understanding of various cultures and societies. Through reading, students can explore different time periods, places, and characters, which can inspire them to think creatively and empathize with others. Reading can stimulate students' curiosity and encourage them to ask questions, analyze information critically, and form their own opinions. By incorporating reading into the curriculum, educators can help students develop essential skills such as problem-solving, communication, and flexibility. Reading also fosters a love for learning and can ignite a passion for exploration and discovery. When students are engaged in reading, they are more likely to actively participate in discussions, debates, and projects, which can further enhance their creative thinking abilities. Furthermore, reading can serve as a gateway to new ideas, innovations, and solutions to complex problems.

There are many different types of creative thinking, but some common ones include divergent thinking, convergent thinking, lateral thinking, critical thinking, and associative

thinking. Each type involves unique approaches to generating new ideas and solving problems creatively.

- Divergent thinking is a thought process or method used to generate creative ideas by exploring a wide range of possible solutions or outcomes. It involves thinking outside the box, considering multiple perspectives, and coming up with various possibilities rather than focusing on one correct answer. Divergent thinking is often associated with creativity, brainstorming, and problem-solving.

- Convergent thinking is a cognitive process in which an individual narrows down a range of possibilities to find a single, correct answer or solution to a problem. It involves focusing on logical and systematic reasoning to come up with the most appropriate response. This type of thinking is commonly used in tasks that have a clear goal or objective, such as solving math problems or completing standardized tests.

- Lateral thinking is a term coined by Edward de Bono, a Maltese philosopher and psychologist, to describe a way of solving problems through an indirect and creative approach. It involves looking at a problem from different perspectives, using unconventional methods, and thinking "outside the box" to generate innovative solutions. Lateral thinking often involves breaking out of traditional thought patterns and exploring new ideas that may not seem immediately relevant to the problem at hand. It is a valuable skill for overcoming mental blocks and finding new ways to approach complex issues.

- Associative thinking is a cognitive process in which one thought or concept leads to another related thought or concept. It involves making connections between ideas, memories, or experiences based on similarities, contrasts, or other relationships. Associative thinking allows individuals to generate new ideas, solve problems creatively, and make connections between seemingly unrelated pieces of information. It is often used in brainstorming, creativity exercises, and problem-solving activities.

Here are a few examples of critical thinking activities among English learners:

- a. Analyzing and evaluating arguments in a persuasive text
- b. Comparing and contrasting different characters or themes in a novel
- c. Solving complex word problems in mathematics
- d. Evaluating the credibility of sources when conducting research
- e. Reflecting on personal beliefs and values through writing prompts
- f. Creating and defending a logical argument in a debate or discussion
- g. Identifying and challenging assumptions or biases in a piece of literature or media
- h. Formulating and testing hypotheses in a science experiment
- i. Assessing the potential consequences of different courses of action in a decision-making scenario
- j. Synthesizing information from multiple sources to form a well-supported conclusion

These activities encourage students to think critically, analyze information, make reasoned judgments, and develop their problem-solving skills.

In conclusion, reading plays a crucial role in nurturing students' creative thinking skills and preparing them for success in the modern world. By prioritizing reading in the

educational environment, educators can empower students to think critically, express themselves effectively, and adapt to new challenges. Through a combination of literature, storytelling, and discussion, students can expand their horizons, broaden their minds, and become lifelong learners who are capable of making a positive impact on society.

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