

Making decisions critical thinking exercise

1. Rank the following decisions (1-7) based on their importance:

- ___ a. Taking a vacation
- ___ b. Buying a new car
- ___ c. Saving money for emergencies
- ___ d. Spending time with friends
- ___ e. Learning a new skill
- ___ f. Eating healthy food
- ___ g. Getting a promotion at work

Give a short explanation for your ranking: _____

2. Read the opinion statements below and decide whether you agree or disagree with each.

a. It's essential to make a pros and cons list before making a decision.(agree/disagree)

Reason: _____

b. Following your intuition is the best way to make decisions. (agree/disagree)

Reason: _____

c. The more time you spend on making a decision, the better it will be. (agree/disagree)

Reason: _____

d. It's better to ask others for their opinions before deciding on something. (agree/disagree)

Reason: _____

e. Sometimes, making a spontaneous decision can be the right choice. (agree/disagree)

Reason: _____

3. Complete the following sentences with your own ideas about making decisions:

a. Before I make a decision, I usually...

b. One decision I regret making is...

c. When I'm faced with a difficult choice, I find it helpful to...

d. If I could go back in time and change one decision, I would...

e. I believe that making decisions is easier when...

1. Rank the following decisions (1-7) based on their importance:

- 1 c. Saving money for emergencies
- 2 f. Eating healthy food
- 3 g. Getting a promotion at work
- 4 e. Learning a new skill
- 5 d. Spending time with friends
- 6 a. Taking a vacation
- 7 b. Buying a new car

Give a short explanation for your ranking: I ranked saving money for emergencies as the most important decision because it ensures financial stability during unexpected situations. Eating healthy food comes next as it's vital for maintaining good health. Getting a promotion at work is important for career growth and financial improvement. Learning a new skill helps with personal and professional development. Spending time with friends is essential for nurturing relationships and social well-being. Taking a vacation, although important for relaxation, ranks lower as it depends on one's current priorities. Lastly, buying a new car is the least important decision on this list as it's a luxury and not an essential need for everyone.

2. Read the opinion statements below and decide whether you agree or disagree with each.

a. Agree

Reason: Making a pros and cons list helps in analyzing the advantages and disadvantages of each option, leading to a more informed and rational decision.

b. Disagree

Reason: While intuition can be helpful in some situations, relying solely on it can lead to impulsive and potentially poor decisions. A balanced approach that combines intuition with rational analysis is more effective.

c. Disagree

Reason: Spending too much time on a decision can lead to overthinking and analysis paralysis. It's important to allocate a reasonable amount of time for decision-making and then commit to a choice.

d. Agree

Reason: Asking others for their opinions can provide new perspectives and insights, making it easier to consider all aspects of a decision before making a choice.

e. Agree

Reason: In some situations, spontaneous decisions can lead to positive outcomes, especially when the decision is based on prior experience or doesn't have significant long-term consequences.

Sentence Starter Complete the Sentence with Your Own Ideas Exercise (Sample Answers):

- a. Before I make a decision, I usually weigh the pros and cons and discuss it with someone I trust.
- b. One decision I regret making is not taking the opportunity to study abroad during my college years.
- c. When I'm faced with a difficult choice, I find it helpful to take a break and clear my mind before reevaluating the options.
- d. If I could go back in time and change one decision, I would choose a different major in college.
- e. I believe that making decisions is easier when you have a clear understanding of your priorities and values.