

Homestead Schools, Inc.

N 355 Advanced Creative Writing

Week 4 Assignment 4: How can creative writing and critical thinking be used together to
achieve results?

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Abstract

Making your content more fun and vibrant also attractive to read, you should spark the curiosity of the reader, keep them absorbed, make them want to keep reading and learn more you can apply. In addition, you should use some technique like critical thinking, creative writing, a tight structure, balanced arguments, and added some of story telling to make your writing more interesting.

What is critical thinking?

Critical thinking is a rich concept that has been developing throughout the past 2500 years.

Many people equate the idea of critical thinking with a criticism of what other people are doing, or finding fault, which is not accurate. However, the definition of critical thinking varies from one to other.

John Dewey, the American philosopher, psychologist and educator, is widely regarded as the "father" of the modern critical thinking tradition. He called it reflective thinking and defined it as "Active, persistent, and careful consideration of a belief or supposed form of knowledge in the light of the grounds which support it and the further conclusions to which it tends." (Dewey, 1910). John Dewey is one of many educational leaders who recognized that a curriculum aimed at building thinking skills would benefit the individual learner, the community, and the entire democracy.

Another definition due to Edward Glaser, co-author of what have become the world's most widely used test of critical thinking, the Watson-Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal. Glaser defined critical thinking as: (1) an attitude of being disposed to consider in a thoughtful way the problems and subjects that come within the range of one's experiences, (2) knowledge of the methods of logical inquiry and reasoning, and (3) some skill in applying those methods. Critical thinking calls for a persistent effort to examine any belief or supposed form of knowledge in the light of the evidence that supports it and the further conclusions to which it tends. (Glaser, 1941).

One of the most famous contributors to the development of the critical thinking tradition is Robert Ennis; his definition, which has gained wide currency in the field, as: "Critical thinking is reasonable, reflective thinking that is focused on deciding what to believe or do." (Norris and Ennis, 1989)

One last definition is Michael Scriven has recently argued that critical thinking as "an academic competency akin to reading and writing" and is of similarly fundamental importance. He defines it thus: Critical thinking is skilled and active interpretation and evaluation of observations and communications, information and argumentation. (Fisher and Scriven, 1997), He defines critical thinking as a skilled activity for reasons similar to those mentioned above. He points out that thinking does not count as critical merely because it is intended to be, any more than thinking counts as scientific simply because it aims to be. Critical thinking has to meet certain standards - of clarity, relevance, reasonableness, etc. - and one may be more or less skilled at this. He defines critical thinking as an active process, partly because it involves questioning and partly because of the role-played by met cognition - thinking about your own thinking.

Critical thinking includes identifying a problem, determining the best solution and choosing the most effective method of reaching that solution. After executing the plan, critical thinkers reflect on the situation to figure out if it was effective and if it could have been done better. Critical thinking requires you to work on your thinking continually, to make your thinking the object of thought; to make your behavior the object of your thinking; to make your beliefs the object of your thinking.

What is creative writing?

Writing is not just an individual process; it is a social skill involving observation, story telling, collaboration and communication. It is a means of self-expression that can instill a positive sense of self-achievement and boost self-esteem. Creative writing can also be the catalyst for helping peoples who are having problems in other areas of their life... a kind of therapy for today's peoples, growing up in a stressful world full of bullying, peer pressure, anger, family challenges

and a conflicted world. Creative writing is one of the most important skills that it stretches the imagination and offers a wonderful outlet for expression. It helps create orderly thought and can be the basis for lifetime of clear communication and self-expression.

Creative writing is quite different from formal composition. We can choose our own materials and forms. Most often the writer will write from the "I" point of view. Creative writing is reaching the purpose of expressing the thoughts, feelings and motions of the writing. Creative writers have the power to entertain someone, to make someone laugh, to make someone cry and to make someone think.

Between creative writing and critical thinking

Writing can be difficult because it is not completely a linear process. However, there have some of standard structure we can follow (i.e. research, outline, draft and edit); the reality is that the actual work of writing is usually a lot more dynamic. Most of time we do not think for one or two hours and then write the paper - they are intertwined and should be well organized otherwise our writings will not convincing. It is for this reason that I believe writing to be a great way to our critical thinking abilities. While we may have a clear idea about a topic before we write, most of the time, one idea can receive numerous alterations during writing. We are training our mind to think critically. In addition, since writing involves much of our faculties, this openness to challenging our ideas can also lead to a sharper faculty. Critical thinking also helps improve our writing skills that it is means stepping away from the emotions involved and looking at things in a more scientific manner. This can prevent us from having the problem of being too attached to one specific part of what we write. We will be to edit our work better because we can think logically instead of emotional.

When doing result people using critical thinking and creative writing are perhaps the brain's equivalent of a decathlon. It is like forces you to think, feel, perceive, and remember, to communicate effectively and to make smart decisions. Creative writing with critical thinking is helpful to practice thinking about a problem in a different way or from a new perspective, and it is able to make effective and efficient decisions using the right information.

Conclusion

Creative writing with critical thinking involves the use of information, experience, and world knowledge in ways, which allow writers to seek alternatives, make inferences, pose questions, and solve problems, thereby signaling understanding in a variety of complex ways. Critical thinking skills apply not only to thinking, but also to reading, writing, speaking and listening, you must be able to translate a thought clearly and accurately, quickly and logically so that others understand what you are saying without any confusion.

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Homestead School, Inc.
N 355 Advanced Creative Writing
Submitted by:
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Topic: How can creative writing and critical thinking be used together to achieve results? Use your own profession to serve as examples.

Abstract:

Recently, global nursing experts have been aggressively encouraging nurses to pursue creativity and innovation in nursing to improve nursing outcomes. Nurse's creativity plays a significant role in health and well-being. In most health systems across the world, nurses provide up to 80% of the primary health care; therefore, they are critically positioned to provide creative solutions for current and future global health challenges. The world of healthcare is changing. Today's health care organizations need creative and innovative solutions nurses worldwide are engaged in innovative activities on a daily basis; activities motivated by the need to improve care outcomes and reduce costs to the health system. Nurses often encounters unexpected situations and involves taking care of patients with different backgrounds and health conditions; hence, they need to go beyond nursing routine and acquire creative thinking to make useful decisions. In most health systems, nurses are the main professional component of 'front line' staff providing up to 80% of primary health care. Among the most important of these resources is creativity, which is the capacity to think of old problems in new ways to change the perspectives and useful approaches to construct our organizations work better and to meet the needs of patients. Creative writing and critical thinking are keys to the survival and growth of both health care system and nursing.

Introduction

Nursing is a profession that often encounters unexpected situations and involves taking care of patients with different backgrounds and health conditions, hence nurses need to go beyond routine nursing and acquire creative thinking to make beneficial decisions.

Example telling a story – creating a narrative people lives by stories. We use stories to entertain ourselves, describe our experiences and hopes and say who we are. Nurses know that people often tell stories about health and illness, and nurses, in their turn, use stories to describe to others, potential outcomes and possible futures. Narratives are powerful because they fuse concrete experience with not-yet possibilities. To tell our own stories, or to listen to the stories others tell, requires imagination – the human capacity to live, for a moment, in another world. The following two statements, “creative writing complements critical thinking”. Using creative approaches may promote critical thinking make it clear that creative writing and critical thinking are interrelated and should be evenly balanced (Weston & Stoyles 2007).

Why Creative writing and critical thinking skills important in nursing?

Creative writing and Critical thinking are essential concepts in the organizing framework in Nursing. In order to actualize these concepts, just keep in mind that whether you are trying to express a feeling or a thought, the first step is to use your imagination. Creative writing is an art of sorts - the art of making things up, any writing that is original and self-expressive. Involves using own idea to write a story. The purpose of creative writing is to both entertain and share human experience, like love or loss. (American Psychological Association, 2010).

Critical thinking includes identifying a problem, determining the best solution and choosing the most effective method of reaching that solution. After executing the plan, critical thinkers reflect on the situation to figure out if it was effective and if it could have been done better.

How is critical thinking skills applied?

Critical thinking doesn't come naturally to a lot of people, so it's yet another skill to learn and practice. All kinds of writing rely on critical thinking--one has to think critically about how best to tell a story, which point of view to use, which details to highlight, how to make the dialogue work. I believe the critical thinking skills we learn in nursing during clinical will be invaluable throughout the rest of my life. We will inevitably encounter a situation in which there are multiple solutions or treatments and you'll be tasked with determining the solution that will provide the best possible outcome for your patient or family (Paul, 1990). Nurses must be able to quickly and confidently assess situations and make the best care decision in each unique scenario. But critical thinking goes beyond the clinic and is a skill that will be transferable into the rest of your life as well.

Critical Thinking is the process we use to reflect on assess and judge the assumption underlying our own and others ideas and effort. "Critical thinking skills apply not only to thinking, but also to writing, speaking" (Paul, 1990). Example: "You must be able to translate a thought clearly and accurately, quickly and logically so that others understand what you are saying without any confusion" (Paul, 1990).

Critical Thinking Skills and Abilities

Critical thinkers in nursing are skillful in applying intellectual skills for sound reasoning. These skills have been defined as information gathering, focusing, remembering, organizing,

analyzing, generating, integrating and evaluating. As you encounter increasingly more complex practice situations you will be required to think through and reason about nursing in greater depth and draw on deeper, more sophisticated comprehension of what it means to be a nurse in clinical practice all acts in nursing are deeply significant and require of the nurse a mind fully engaged in the practice of nursing. This is the challenge of nursing; critical, reflective practice based on the sound reasoning of intelligent minds committed to safe, effective client care (Paul, 1990). To accomplish this goal the nurse will be required to have both combination of two essential concepts of creative writing and thinking critically. By doing so you will be thinking, critically about nursing and ensuring that you gain in-depth knowledge about nursing as a practice profession (Paul, 1990).

Critical Thinking...a Holistic Approach

Critical Thinking: 1) Disciplined, self-directed thinking which implies the perfection of thinking appropriate to a particular mode or domain of thinking. 2) Thinking that displays master of intellectual skills and abilities. 3) The art of thinking about your thinking while you are thinking in order to make your thinking better: more clear, more accurate, or more defensible (Paul, 1990). In creative writing I would say that rules want to control what you can and cannot do. Principles instead just guide you. A fusion of creativity and research does not neglect the intellect; it simply creates opportunities for a more holistic, organic learning experience—one that let nurses have fun as they gain permanent knowledge. This fusion offers a holistic way of learning that values multiple intelligences, includes a broader field of rhetorical and social choices, and connects learners to them. Nurses learn to value creativity as highly as, or even more highly than, logical and linguistic ways of knowing. As a result they inculcate a reliance

and dependence on their ability to be creative, and the creative process becomes a routine natural way of learning.

Conclusion:

The findings indicated that nurses' creativity in health care organizations can lead to major changes of nursing practice, improvement of care and organizational performance. Nursing and hospital managers should provide a nurturing environment that is conducive to critical thinking, giving the nurses opportunity for flexibility, creativity, support for change, and risk taking. The nurse gains personal satisfaction rewards, and recognition, whereas the organization survives, thrives, and prospers. Therefore, combination of creative writing and critical thinking are key elements for improvement of the organization and more (Baig, 2010). Creative writing may empower nurses to change their approach to practice development. The use of creative writing for nurses in healthcare was an innovative approach. The benefits that emerged – of promoting reflection, facilitating problem solving and unpicking values and beliefs – could make it a particularly valuable tool in the context of practice development where creativity is promoted as a beneficial aspect of the process.

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