

THE CIVIC ARTS

THE COMPETENCY PROGRAM

FOUNDATIONS

Critical Analysis (updated 8-16-02)

Category	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Knowledge base	Demonstrates elementary understanding of the basic knowledge base appropriate to the analysis in question	Demonstrates solid understanding of the knowledge base appropriate to the analysis in question	Demonstrates comprehensive understanding of both detail and context in the knowledge base appropriate to the analysis in question
Analysis	<p>Recognizes and explains an argument prepared by somebody else <u>or</u> prepares an interpretation incorporating such elements as the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. inductive reasoning 2. deductive reasoning 3. comparison 4. cause and effect 5. judgment referenced to established criteria 	<p>Prepares a more sophisticated analysis containing one or more of the following to make a sound, logical argument:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. inductive reasoning 2. deductive reasoning 3. comparison 4. cause and effect 5. measure against established criteria 6. recognition and explanation of fallacy in others' reasoning process 	<p>Employs with ease and sophistication at least three of the methods of analysis listed in Level 2</p>

Evaluation	Recognizes that valid assertions or arguments are built on evidence	Demonstrates ability to judge the quality, credibility, worth, or practicality of ideas presented, based on command of the knowledge base and/or analytical process, as listed above; recognizes that evaluation includes judgment of the argument itself as well as the assumptions (often unstated) on which it is based	Demonstrates superior ability to judge the quality, credibility, worth, or practicality of ideas presented; uses established criteria (rules of evidence, logic, or shared values) and in an unusually convincing manner explains how these criteria are met or not met with regard both to the argument itself and explicit or implicit assumptions on which it is based
Insight or Creativity			After demonstrating command of <i>Knowledge Base, Analysis, and Evaluation</i> , as listed above, develops an insight or hypothesis and offers support for its relevance; where appropriate, this may include an indication of the process by which the hypothesis or insight may be tested