Our vision is simple: we believe that the tools needed to develop superior thinking skills should be available to all.

Critical Thinking Academy

Assess, evaluate and improve your students’ critical thinking skills easily and effectively.
What is the Critical Thinking Academy?

Macat Critical Thinking Academy combines an intuitive online assessment and analytics platform with a comprehensive set of printable learning resources, which help measure, analyse and develop critical thinking skills in your school.

The academy has been designed to help schools across the world to develop students' critical thinking skills, prepare them for further education, and help them flourish as 21st-century-ready leaders, innovators, and strategic thinkers.
What is critical thinking?

Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and rationally, understanding the logical connection between ideas. Through developing a set of six interconnected critical thinking skills – PACIER skills – students will improve their ability to:

- **Spot the most relevant and useful details** among a mass of information.
- **Find creative, workable solutions** where others see only problems.
- **Spot flaws in arguments** that others accept without question.
- **Articulate opinions**, problems, and solutions clearly and effectively.
- **Make quicker, more informed decisions**, relying on evidence rather than “gut feel”.
- **Formulate strong arguments as powerful and confident persuader**.
- **Put themselves in other people’s shoes**, and learn from different perspectives.
- **Take a stand for themselves** and avoid being swayed by the uninformed views of other people.

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Macat’s work in critical thinking

Macat has spent four years researching a credible response to the pressing market need for critical thinking skills that demonstrates both impact and excellence.

In 2015, in association with the University of Cambridge, Macat surveyed 152 academic faculty from HASS departments at top UK and US universities to develop a propriety skills-based framework of six key skills (and 24 sub-skills), identified as essential to the measurement and development of critical thinking: Problem Solving, Analysis, Creative Thinking, Interpretation, Evaluation, Reasoning – PACIER skills.

Together with the University of Cambridge, Macat then verified these results with the world’s largest critical thinking study, which included over 10,000 participants worldwide.

Macat now has a continuous validation programme led by Professor John de Jong and a Technical Advisory Board comprised of leading experts in assessment and critical thinking.

Develop in association with:

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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Why is critical thinking so important?

Computers and robots are more cost-effective, more accurate and more robust than humans. And they're doing more and more of the tasks that only a few years ago depended on human input. This means that, within 10 years, the jobs market will change in ways we can only imagine.

These shifts have profound implications on the way we educate students. In 2020, the most successful people will be those best equipped to move not only from job to job, but from sector to sector, and industry to industry—taking with them a skillset that allows them to get to grips with new problems quickly and surely. That skillset is critical thinking.

“I'm calling on our nation's education chiefs to develop standards that measure whether students possess twenty-first-century skills like problem-solving and critical thinking.”
— Barack Obama, 44th President of the United States

How does Critical Thinking Academy work?

**Measure**
Deploy 45-minute assessments which measure the six interlocking PACIER critical thinking skills.

**Develop**
Use our online library of printable resource packs to run engaging and effective critical thinking sessions that address skills gaps.

**Analyse**
Access the assessment platform’s interactive analytics dashboard to review results in real-time, by institution, class or individual.

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Our advisory team

**Dr Roy van den Brink-Budgen**, Critical Thinking Advisor
- Widely known in the field of critical thinking
- Former Chief Examiner of A-level critical thinking assessment
- Co-founder and Director of Studies of the Centre for Critical Thinking in Singapore.

**John de Jong**, Head of Technical Advisory Board
- Currently Professor of Language Testing (VU University Amsterdam) and Director of “Language Testing Services”
- Expert on empirical scaling of language abilities
- Led the framework development for PISA 2015, 2018 and PISA for Development.

**Richard Andrews** (UK), Professor in Education at the University of East Anglia, Head of the School of Education and Lifelong Learning (UEA)

**Michael Nussbaum** (USA), Professor of Educational Psychology & Higher Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Sarah Harvey** (UK), Associate Professor in the UCL School of Management

**Mark Reckase** (USA), University Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University

**Mark Forshaw** (UK), Professor at the Faculty of Science, Liverpool John Moore University, author of “Critical Thinking for Psychology”

**Raymond Thomas** (SG), Founder and Managing Director of The Leadership Paradigm

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Who is Macat?

Macat International, a world leader in critical thinking solutions, is transforming the way people learn by connecting them to the tools needed to succeed throughout their high school, university and professional career.

Macat offers students and professionals worldwide a learning, assessment and development ecosystem that impart the knowledge and skills that advance critical thinking with precision, by placing them on an academically robust evidence-based learning path. This builds a foundation on which other essential 21st century skills can be developed.

Watch the video at: www.macat.com/about-us

Critical Thinking iLibrary – 200 analyses of the world’s most influential books, curated in one multimedia platform and delivered in text, audio and video.

Critical Thinking Academy – a complete assessment and learning programme to improve critical thinking.

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Find out more about Macat Critical Thinking Academy

Book a phone demonstration

Delivered through our in-house video conference system, our team of experts will talk you through the critical thinking academy, which includes the assessment platform and resource library. Demonstrations take approximately 45mins.
Thank you

Critical Thinking.
It makes all the difference.

www.macat.com