Textbook Assignment: Exercise 1.6

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Critical Thinking Essay (250 words min.)

 Exercise 1.6

There are key standards when it comes to critical thinking such as precision, clarity, accuracy, and fairness. We can easily see that passion is often viewed as the strongest trait in critical thinkers. This is since we need to consider a problem on serious terms if one is to even think of solving the problem. Ralph Waldo Emerson views the hardest task in the world to think, while it is about the passion to think that makes the topmost difficult task. Passions are also the driver of other traits of critical thinking like precision, clarity, and accuracy. In short, we can see that passion is the reason one starts or learns to think critically.

 There is some problem too when it comes to critical thinking. People that employ critical thinking often end up being brutally honest with their assumptions. This can be viewed as a serious issue in some organizations, especially where compartmentation is practiced. Take the example of middle management in an organization. If they are brutally honest with the staff under their command, they often end up demotivating them, which causes difficulties for the company. Similarly, if the said part of management ends up being completely honest with the upper management, they end up putting themselves and their subordinates in danger. So, honesty may be the best policy, but subjective honesty is an even better one, especially in the corporate world.

 Nevertheless, there should be not a shred of doubt that critical thinkers have some success in life than their uncritical peers or superiors. In the real world, however, success comes with a balanced approach. One cannot be critical all the time. There are flaws in everything, even ourselves. Therefore, we should all be balanced, even in the practice of critical thinking in both our personal and professional lives.

# References

Gregory Bassham, W. I. (2011). *Critical Thinking: A Student's Introduction.* (4th, Ed.) New York: McGraw-Hill.