

STEPS TOWARDS HIGHER THINKING INSTRUCTIONS

Use this resource to help you critically think about what is actually occurring as we discuss the various topics in this course. You can use this resource for other courses. This is a great tool to use for when you have to write papers, as well as a great indicator that can be used when you have to make decisions in your life. All seven of these concepts are perspectives you experience on a daily basis. You always weigh what is good for you and if you are being treated fairly. Your perspective is based on your logic, needs, wants, emotion, flexibility towards change, how much you are willing to fight for your desired outcome and whether you incorporate your spiritual beliefs in your decision. EVERYTHING about (your) life is broken down into these seven simple concepts. It is vital that you understand how these perspectives work together in history and how they affect your life daily.

EXAMPLES TO LOOK FOR

Ideology, Social, Political, Interaction, Cultural, and Economic = ISPICE

The ISPICE concept provides a model to connect different perspectives. This also provides an outline to understanding topics and illustrates examples about the topic. Ask questions using the ISPICE model to understand the perspective of an author and or topic. For example, what is the author's view on "politics?" Combine ISPICE with the perspectives and get a more in depth question/answer on the topic being discussed. For example, what is the author's view on "political progress" or "economic inequities?" ISPICE helps provides more meaning to examples and topics that you would choose to discuss.

PROGRESS vs. EQUITY

The goal is to identify and explain in detail the Progress and Equity in the topics of the course. Need vs. Want, Logic vs. Emotion, Martin vs. Malcolm, Liberal vs. Conservative, Black vs. White vs. Grey, and Spiritual vs. Secular perspectives are to be used to analyze the ideal of Progress vs. Equity in depth. If you are having an issue with understanding who is progressing or what is fair look at the different perspectives to help lead you to your answer. Your objective is to understand the different perspectives of why people have different ideas of what progress and equity actually looks like.

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Equity vs. Progress. People and events will always show progression and digression. Someone will always win or lose. Every situation will either be equitable or inequitable. The question is how is each individual person and or group being affected. Use the ISPICE concept and incorporate Logic vs. Emotion, Malcolm vs. Martin, Liberal vs. Conservative, and Secular vs. Spiritual to better explain in detail the concept of Progress vs. Equity.

1. For or against the topic
 - a. Identify who is for and against the topic in the text.
 - b. Choose if you are for or against the topic.
 - i. If neutral you must explain why
 - c. Pick a side you would prefer to see treated fairly and or progress.
 - i. Make a personal connection
 - d. How does your views connect with the views of the topic
2. What type of progress and equity do you see?
 - a. Use ISPICE to name the type of progress and equity.
 - i. Ex. This is economic progress because or social inequity or this form of ideology is progressive.
3. Who is progressing and who is digressing
 - a. How are they progressing and or digressing using ISPICE?
 - b. Most readings will show both progress and digression for each person and or event that is occurs.
4. What is fair and what is not fair?
 - a. How is this equitable and or inequitable for them using ISPICE?
 - b. Most readings will show both equity and inequitable situations for each event and or person involved.
5. Does Progress or Equity hold more influence or is it neutral?
 - a. Discuss using the ISPICE concept.
6. How did the outcomes affect everyone involved using ISPICE?
 - a. What did the person/people get?
 - i. How did the people or event view the outcome?
 1. Did the person/people actually want what was fair?
 2. Did the person/people actually want progress?
 3. Explain with examples
 - ii. How do you view the outcome?
 1. Explain with examples discussing Equity vs. Progress with ISPICE
7. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Need vs. Want

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Need vs. Want. Identify if the perspective is associated with a need or want. Does the person, people, or group need or want the desired topic?

Need is defined as something you cannot live without. Anything that is essential for survival. Everything else falls into the category of want.

Want is defined as something one desires to have, that they may or may not be able to obtain. Want is inessential for basic survival but is usually required for the fulfillment of desires.

When analyzing Progress vs. Equity identify what is needed and what is considered a want.

1. What are the individuals/group of people actions and perspectives being demonstrated that affects the need and or want?
2. How does the perspective of need affect the dynamics of the topic or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
3. How does the perspective of want affect the dynamics of the topic or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
4. Is there a disconnect between Need vs. Want between the people involved?
 - a. Who views the want as a need?
 - b. Who views the need as a want?
 - c. How does these perspectives create an alliance and or conflict?
5. How does Need vs. Want help determine these concepts using ISPICE?
 - a. How is the need being obtained?
 - i. Is it being obtained the right way?
 - ii. Is it being obtained the wrong way?
 - b. How is the want being obtained?
 - i. Is it being obtained the right way?
 - ii. Is it being obtained the wrong way?
6. What was achieved and or lost using the ISPICE concept?
 - a. How did Need vs. Want affect the outcome?
 - b. How did the people feel about the outcome?
 - c. How do you feel about the outcome?
7. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Martin vs. Malcolm – How does Grit affect the topic?

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Martin vs. Malcolm. Does the people involved have a mindset of “By any means necessary” or do they place limitations on how they plan to proceed when trying to achieve their objectives. Is there a line that a person or society is not willing to cross or do they not even care if they are crossing any line?

Grit is how much you persevere though adversity. When analyzing information who is fighting through and who is giving up? Grit can also mean slow grind. Things may not always change immediately. Analyze if it does change, how long it took to change, and what changed.

When does grit get people or society in trouble? Sometimes when you press too much and when individuals do not know when to give up, they actually lose or put themselves in horrible situations that they cannot overcome. Look for these situations when

analyzing and researching information. This is a key factor when studying key individuals and empires in history.

1. Who is using Martin concepts and who is using Malcolm concepts?
2. How does the concept of Martin Luther King Jr. (nonviolence or placing a limit of how far you are willing to go) affect the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
3. How does the concept of Malcolm X (violence or By any means necessary, no limitations placed when trying to achieve an objective.) affect the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
4. How does Logic and Emotion help determine these concepts using ISPICE?
 - a. How much logic do you feel is being used?
 - i. Is it being used in the right way?
 - ii. Is it being used in the wrong way?
 - b. How much emotion do you feel is being used
 - i. Is it being used in the right way?
 - ii. Is it being used in the wrong way?
5. What was achieved and or lost using the ISPICE concept?
 - a. How did Martin vs. Malcolm affect the outcome?
 - b. How did the people feel about the outcome?
 - c. How do you feel about the outcome?
6. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Logic (Reason) vs. Emotion – Affects how well you use Grit

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Logic (Reason) vs. Emotion. Does the people/society involved respond logically to situations they are presented with or do they allow their emotions to take over? What was once considered logical is now illogical, and what was once considered emotional is now considered logical, so how much does emotion allow for influencing what we consider logical and visa versa?

When exercising Grit, is it more logical or is it emotional or is it a combination of both? When can Grit contradict Logic and be beneficial? When can Grit contradict emotion and be beneficial? When can Grit be negative to your success?

1. Who is being logical and who is being emotional or is it both?
 - a. Explain using details
2. How is Logic affecting the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Is the response reasonable to the person/people/society?
 - i. Give examples why
 - b. Do the other people involved believe this is a reasonable response?
 - i. Give examples
3. How is Emotion affecting the person/people/society and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Is the response reasonable

- i. Give examples
 - b. Do the other people involved react with an emotional response?
 - 4. Does Logic or Emotion hold more influence or is it neutral?
 - a. Discuss using the ISPICE concept.
 - i. How would the people answer this question?
 - 1. Break the people down into groups to answer this question.
 - ii. How would you answer this question
5. How is Logic and Emotion intertwined with the event using ISPICE?
 - a. How did Logic and Emotion work together to help create the outcome?
 - i. How did Logic and Emotion influence progress?
 - 1. Give examples
 - ii. How did Logic and Emotion influence equity?
 - 1. Give examples
6. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Liberal vs. Conservatism

The fundamental difference between liberals and conservatives is in how much of the past/present should be preserved for the future. There are also different levels of Liberals and Conservatives. Liberals are permissive and believe in the winds of change, Conservatives on the other want to preserve the existing structures. They have different views because they often have different experiences. Conservatives typically come from the **dominant groups** for whom the present is convenient. Liberals often from the challenger groups for who change is necessary. Thus, minorities and immigrants are often liberals while someone from a majority community is more likely to be a conservative. This is why an Indian who might be a liberal in the US might be conservative in India. Again, there are economic conservatives and there are social conservatives. **Economic conservatives** tend to come from economically dominant groups and **social conservatives** often come from socially dominant groups.

- 1. Who is being a liberal and who is being a conservative or are they being both?
 - a. Explain using details
- 2. How is Liberalism affecting the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Is the response reasonable to the person/people/society?
 - i. Give examples why
 - b. Do the other people involved believe this is a reasonable response?
 - i. Give examples
- 3. How is Conservatism affecting the person/people/society and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Is the response reasonable
 - i. Give examples
 - b. Do the other people involved react with an emotional response?
- 4. Does Liberalism or Conservatism hold more influence or is it neutral?
 - a. Discuss using the ISPICE concept.
 - i. How would the people answer this question?

1. Break the people down into groups to answer this question.
 - ii. How would you answer this question
5. How is Liberalism and Conservatism intertwined with the event using ISPICE?
 - a. How did Liberalism and Conservatism work together to help create the outcome?
 - i. How did Liberalism and Conservatism influence progress?
 1. Give examples
 - ii. How did Liberalism and Conservatism influence equity?
 1. Give examples
6. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Black vs. White vs. Grey - Right vs. Wrong

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Right vs. Wrong. Does the people involved have a black and white mindset or are they grey. Grey means there are exceptions and certain actions can be overlooked because of the situation.

1. How does the Black vs. White vs. Grey concept (morals are different based on culture) affect the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
 - b. Which color has more influence?
 - i. Is it logical?
 - ii. Does it have to be logical?
2. What was achieved and or lost using the ISPICE concept?
 - a. How did Black vs. White vs. Grey affect the outcome?
 - b. How did the people feel about the outcome?
 - c. How do you feel about the outcome?
3. How is science affected when discussing Right vs. Wrong vs. Grey?
 - a. Does it affirm or discount your perspective?
4. How does Right vs. Wrong vs. Grey affect your decision-making?
 - a. Does your perspective contradict or align with this concept?
 - i. Explain why or why not
 - ii. Is it important that it aligns - Does it matter?
 - iii. Explain using examples.
5. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts.

Spiritual vs. Secular

When reading an article, book, and or studying an event or situation look at every person and or situation and analyze the concept of Spiritual vs. Secular. Does the people involved have a secular or spiritual mindset when trying to achieve their objectives.

1. How does the Spiritual concept (example - religious, incorporeal, supernatural, divine, sacred) affect the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
2. How does the Secular concept (not related or connected to religious, spiritual, or sacred; corporeal.) affect the person and or event using ISPICE?
 - a. Give examples
3. How does Spiritual and Secular help determine these concepts using ISPICE?
 - a. How much spiritual influence is there or affecting the situation?
 - i. Is it being used in the right way?
 - ii. Is it being used in the wrong way?
 - b. How much secular influence is there or affecting the situation?
 - i. Is it being used in the right way?
 - ii. Is it being used in the wrong way?
4. What was achieved and or lost using the ISPICE concept?
 - a. How did Spiritual vs. Secular affect the outcome?
 - b. How did the people feel about the outcome?
 - c. How do you feel about the outcome?
5. How is science affected when discussing Secular vs. Spiritual?
 - a. Does it affirm or discount your perspective?
6. How does Spiritual vs. Secular affect your decision-making?
 - a. Does your perspective contradict or align with your spiritual beliefs?
 - i. Explain why or why not
 - ii. Is it important that it aligns - Does it matter?
 - iii. Explain using examples.
7. How does all the different perspectives connect using the ISPICE concepts?
 - a. What was lost and what was gained using the ISPICE concepts

Connection to You

Everything you ever learn should be analyzed. Does the information you have learned connect to your life? Will it connect to your life later on? Is the information (any information) that being presented relevant to your life. Always find a takeaway and make education useful.

1. What connections can be made about the topic versus your life?
2. How do you base your decision-making?
3. How does your perspective affect how you see things compared to society's perspective?
4. How do you relate using your past experiences?
5. How does the different scenarios in the topics connect with you and your goals?
6. How much grit do you have?
 - a. How does grit affect your progress through perseverance when dealing with adversity?
7. What concepts do you use on a regular basis and how do they influence your perspective and path to success?

Your Final Answer - Bring It All Together

Although you may come into the conversation or topic with a preconceived perspective at this point you should have validated your thoughts with evidence or you will have changed your perspective because of the evidence you discovered. Once analyzing all the different perspectives with ISPICE and how they are influencing each other you must put all the concepts together. How does all the concepts work together? For example how does Logic vs. Emotion work with and or against Progress vs. Equity? The objective is to be able to discuss every topic using the different perspectives and connect every ideal and be able to compare them.

1. Analyze concepts and evaluate your answer
2. What were your views on the topic and did it change after analysis?
 - a. Research information on the topic
 - i. Find examples and use them
 - ii. Don't be biased – use all relevant information to come up with a logical answer.
 - iii. Explain why the examples are important
3. Final answer
 - a. Bring everything together and answer the question
 - i. Answer the question
 - b. Self Reflection
 - i. Did your views change?
 - ii. What did you notice that was significant?
 - iii. How do you think this will alter history?
 - iv. How can this information alter your future?
 - c. Relate it to you and how it can apply to your life
 - i. Personal life
 - ii. Goals you have for your life
 - iii. Connection to other people's lives

Follow Through

After an individual has thoroughly broken down the rationale to either execute or not execute an action, their needs to be follow through on the action. Progress only occurs with action. Individual can think it, but it is not only until they act on their thoughts and beliefs does it actually matter.