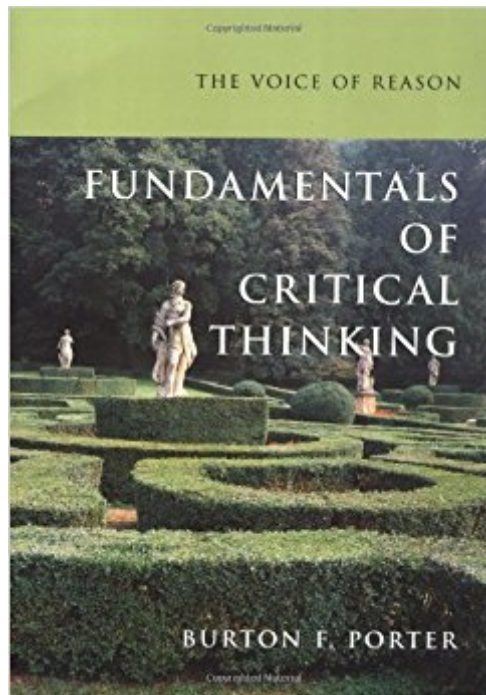




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The Voice Of Reason: Fundamentals Of Critical Thinking



Synopsis

Lively, comprehensive, and contemporary, *The Voice of Reason: Fundamentals of Critical Thinking* covers three principal areas: thought and language, systematic reasoning, and modes of proof. It employs highly accessible explanations and a multitude of examples drawn from social issues and various academic fields, showing students and other readers how to construct and criticize arguments using the techniques of sound reasoning. *The Voice of Reason* examines the traditional elements of the field and also explores new ground. The first section of the book elucidates the relationship between thought and language, explaining how words function. It discusses meaning, connotation, vagueness, ambiguity, and definition, identifying the linguistic elements that can produce mistakes in thinking. The next section describes the rules of systematic reasoning, examining such topics as truth, relevance, and adequacy; deductive logic (categorical, hypothetical, and disjunctive); and induction (cause and effect, analogy, generalization, and hypothesis). Sixteen fallacies in thinking are also described through extensive illustrations and applications. The final section of the book offers a unique study of what constitutes proof in several different areas--including politics, advertising, law, and social issues--as well as in the academic disciplines of literature, science, history, and ethics. The author describes the various rules of evidence, using essays by major figures in each field as examples. An ideal text for courses in critical thinking, informal logic, and reasoning and writing, *The Voice of Reason* offers numerous pedagogical features including a host of examples; assignments, exercises, and puzzles at both the halfway point and at the end of each chapter; cartoons and quotations throughout; and practical applications of theoretical concepts. An extensive Instructor's Manual contains answers to the exercises that appear throughout the text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Burton Porter is at Western New England College.

This was a text used for a critical thinking class (bachelors level) and the best way to explain it is that it feels like there should be a book the read before or with this book? It is informative but there are some parts that didn't make a lick of sense. It may not have helped that the instructor didn't teach/explain beyond the book but the book is not something to take on without guidance or for fun unless you are a masochist. It is thought provoking but I'm guessing there are better critical thinking texts out there.

interesting read for a text book

Good book that teaches some things but no up to date on others. Expensive to always purchase books for school which sucks.

The book smelled TERRIBLE and should have never been available to rent out again. I think the prior user must have smoked a carton of cigarettes for each page!

I had to buy this book for a college class, so it wasn't purchased for personal reading, but it is a well written book and easy to understand.

Terrible book used for a terrible class. I did not enjoy this book at all.

helped me graduate. Thanks!

I am using this as a text book. Its an easy read and is very interesting and informative. Everyone should take and use this informqtion it could help you become a more rational thinker.

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