Elements of Thought
8 Structures to Define Thinking

Purpose
What is the goal, objective, function?

Question at Issue
What is the key problem or question?

Information
What are the key data, facts, evidence, observations, experiences, reasons?

Interpretation & Inference
What are the key conclusions?

Concepts
What are the theories, definitions, laws, principles, models used?

Assumptions
What are the presuppositions, axioms?

Implications & Consequences
What follows logically?

Point of View
What is the frame of reference, perspective, orientation, world view?

Think
Create
Communicate

EKU students will enhance their critical and creative thinking and communication skills.

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Intellectual Standards to Assess Thinking

Clarity
understandable; the meaning can be grasped by the average reader

Accuracy
free from errors or distortion; true

Precision
exact to the necessary level of detail

Relevance
relating to the matter at hand

Depth
containing complexities and multiple interrelationships

Breadth
encompassing multiple viewpoints

Logic
the parts make sense together; no contradictions

Significance
focusing on the important; not trivial

Fairness
justifiable; not self-serving or one sided

EKTU will develop informed, critical and creative thinkers who communicate effectively.

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