

**NCO Leadership Center of Excellence
Basic Leader Course**

**Lesson Plan for 400-B105 / v5.1
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**

Advance Sheet

1. SCOPE:

At the end of this four-hour lesson, you will apply foundational critical thinking elements when leading your team members and working with your superiors. You will also make the connection between critical thinking and effective communication through active listening, writing, and speaking activities.

2. LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

TLO: This lesson supports BLC Course TLO 400-BLC, Convey clear thoughts, tasks, and purpose to leadership and subordinates through multiple communication mediums.

ELO:

Action: Solve problems using critical thinking.

Condition: As a learner, attending the BLC, using a direct level leadership perspective in new environments, given FM 5-0, practical exercises, and classroom discussions.

Standard: Solve problems using critical thinking by:

- Identifying all eight elements of thought and
- Solving a problem to a case study in a 50-minute group collaboration activity.

Learning Domain: Cognitive

Level of Learning: Applying

3. ASSIGNED LEARNER REQUIREMENTS:

a. Read:

- (1) (1) *The Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking Concepts and Tools*, seventh edition, © 2014, by Dr. Richard Paul and Dr. Linda Elder (22 pages [55 minutes])
- (2) FM 5-0, *Planning and Orders Production*, with Change 1 dated 4 November 2022, Chapter 3 (8 pages [20 minutes])
- (3) Job Aid 2, Improving Your Thinking
- (4) Job Aid 3, Military Problem Solving Process

4. ASSESSMENT:

Refer to B100 advance sheet for information on all assessments.