

Good Thinking vs. Poor Thinking

ASPECT	THE GOOD THINKER	THE POOR THINKER
General Traits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcomes problematic situations and is tolerant of ambiguity.• Is sufficiently self-critical; looks for alternate possibilities and goals; seeks evidence on both sides.• Is reflective and deliberative; searches extensively when appropriate.• Believes in the value of rationality and that thinking can be effective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Searches for certainty and is intolerant of ambiguity.• Is not self-critical and is satisfied with first attempts.• Is impulsive, gives up prematurely, and is overconfident of the correctness of initial ideas.• Overvalues intuition, denigrates rationality; believes thinking won't help.
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is deliberative in discovering goals.• Revises goals when necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is impulsive in discovering goals.• Does not revise goals.
Possibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is open to multiple possibilities and considers alternatives.• Is deliberative in analyzing possibilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prefers to deal with limited possibilities; does not seek alternatives to an initial possibility.• Is impulsive in choosing possibilities.
Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses evidence that challenges favored possibilities.• Consciously searches for evidence against possibilities that are initially strong, or in favor of those that are weak.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ignores evidence that challenges favored possibilities.• Consciously searches only for evidence that favors strong possibilities.

Reference:

Glatthorn, A. & Baron, J. (1985). The good thinker: A model for educational use. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.