



Ten Principles of Critical Research

- 1 Continuously ask the 'why' question (at least three times in building up an argument).
- 2 Be sceptical of the reliability of sources.
- 3 Always know the background (either editorial, personal or otherwise) of your sources.
- 4 Think! Evade obvious questions.
- 5 Prepare!
- 6 Always question arguments.
- 7 Always check the appropriateness of quantitative data.
- 8 Be realistic about what you can achieve as an individual researcher.
- 9 Make sure that your research can be replicated and your hypotheses – potentially – refuted (falsified).
- 10 Be modest regarding what you can know as a subjective human being.