



ELEMENTS

Point of View (frames of reference, perspectives, and orientations)

Question at Issue (problem, issue)

Information (data, facts, observations, experiences)

Assumptions (presuppositions, taking for granted)

Implications and Consequences

STANDARDS

Accuracy (free from errors or distortions, true)

Clarity (understandable, the meaning can be grasped)

Relevance (relating to the matter at hand)

Logic (the parts make sense together –no contradictions)

Precision (exact to the necessary level of detail)

Depth (containing complexities and multiple interrelationships)

Significance (focusing on the important, not trivial)

Fairness (justifiable, not self-serving or one-sided)

Breadth (encompassing multiple viewpoints)

TRAITS

COURAGE – The disposition to question beliefs one feels strongly about

PERSEVERANCE – The disposition to work one's way through intellectual complexities despite frustrations

CONFIDENCE IN REASONING – Based on the belief that one's own higher interests and those of humankind at large are best served by giving the freest play to reason

AUTONOMY – Thinking for oneself while adhering to standards of rationality.