

#1 Critical Thinking Skills are of increasing relevance for today's students who need training instructions and coaching to develop these skills.

#2 The 6SA method trains students in case analysis, clear reasoning and writing, giving supportive peer reviews, and guided reflections.

#3 The method applies „writing is thinking“ and lets students gain experience as writers to become expert reviewers for their peers.

#4 Critics may question the training effect because drafting 6 sentences with max. 20 words each only emphasizes style over content.

#5 However, the formalized style forces students to clarify their reasoning and lets critical readers assess the quality of an argument.

#6 The 6SA method enables students to personally engage with knowledge and help each other to master the art of argumentation.

#1 Introduction | The introduction presents the topic of the text. It guides the reader to a specific situation and sets the horizon of positions that one might take in this situation.

#2 Position | In the position, the author states the argument's claim. The position is where the author can freely choose a stance within the horizon that is opened up by the case description.

#3 Reason | The author presents a reason that supports the stated position. Given that the author can only present one reason, the author needs to choose the one that is most valid and important.

#4 Challenge | In the challenge, the author addresses potential reservations that a critical reader might have concerning the reason. This is an opportunity to safeguard the overall argument against expected criticism.

#5 Rebuttal | The rebuttal answers to the challenge, for example by limiting the position to certain cases. The purpose of the rebuttal is to inform the reader that the author has already identified and weighed the pros and cons of the position.

#6 Conclusion | The conclusion sums up the argument and clearly states the judgement or decision reached by the author's reasoning. Its purpose is to convince the audience, and it should be short, memorable, and to the point.

#1 Introduction | Sketching skills are of increasing relevance for us, who compete and communicate in the visual age. To draft, shape, structure and iterate rapid prototype sketches to convey ideas with lean visual means enhances concise thinking in early stages of research.

#2 Position | Visual thinking with sketches facilitates the structuring of the case analysis, clear reasoning and project development. Sketching is the most immediate and lean visual language.

#3 Reason | Ideasketching applies the rapid visual drafting process and lets students gain experience as visual developer and visual thinkers. Finding complex and structured models shapes processes.

#4 Challenge | Critics may question the ancient research technique sketching. But finding out where to draw a line in the model has always been about knowing the problem from different point of views.

#5 Rebuttal | Ideasketching may seem overcome in the digital age and high-tech education. But focussing on the problem and not on the software helps to find solutions.

#6 Conclusion | Ideasketching enables students to develop concise and complex ideas and models. Sketching helps to find the needed structure and logically argumentation with lean visual means.