



OISE London – Critical Analysis Workshop

The Quatorial and Tutorial classes address the students' needs in English, and the teachers focus on the “learning” of English – grammar, vocabulary and language skills such as reading, writing, speaking and listening. The Critical Analysis Workshop (CAW) takes this to the next level.

The Critical Analysis Workshop challenges the students not simply to accept the information they are given but to consider its implications, to challenge their own beliefs and assumptions about the subject and their own reactions to it. They are asked to see things from different and even opposing points of view, and to explore their own cultural view points compared to those of their international classmates. Can they critically assess the validity of a piece of information, can they challenge themselves to redefine their own views and those of others? Can they open themselves up to new ways of thinking, expressing and discussing their ideas?

News Review	15 minutes
Quatorial Lesson: Comprehension & expression	1.75 hour lesson
Quatorial Lesson : Accuracy	1.75 hour lesson
Quatorial: Project Seminar	30 minutes
Critical Analysis Workshop	1 hour lesson
Spoken Assertiveness Workshop	1 hour lesson



Sample lesson

Students are presented with information on a specific subject about, for example, modern society or the environment. A text is read, understood and analysed for new vocabulary and information. Other resources may be presented such as television news stories or longer magazine articles, and the new information explored.

Students work in small groups, discussing the subject, extracting new words and expressions, information and ideas that will form a debate or dialogue. This dialogue and exchange of ideas will lead to a greater understanding of different views and opinions within the classroom, and shared by society as a whole.



“I think a discussion of dilemmas is a good theme for this lesson because there is no clear answer. We can learn how to reach an agreement in difficult situations” .

Kazuhiko Nakahara, Japan

Class aims & objectives



- to present students with an idea, subject or argument upon which to focus their thinking
- to encourage students to analyse the information given to them for increased understanding of vocabulary and context
- to enable students to explore their own ideas and opinions and to learn how to produce coherent, constructed dialogue and debate
- to allow students to ask questions relating to their reactions based on their cultural viewpoint, beliefs and assumptions

Teacher's role: To present the main idea or theme of the lesson and to provide students with the linguistic tools to break down and analyse the subject and the vocabulary, and to develop their ideas, opinions and perceptions of the subject to form coherent debate.