# 10-Minute Critical Thinking Activities for English Classes

by

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# The Activities

#### **Matrix of Critical-Thinking Skills**

3   A Picture Is Worth	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	, o	Language Manage	P. Contings.	Associative This safe		Seative Marke	Aparties.		William William Co.		Erahanion Judan Mation Judan Aktion	s span
3   A Picture Is Worth	<b>2</b> ,	ACTIVITY	\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \	/ &	/	<del></del>		<b>/</b> ♥	<del></del>		<del></del>	/ <b>*</b> *	/
4   Common Knowledge													
5   Double Trouble													
6 Decomposition		<u> </u>			-								
7 You've Got a Pal       ✓         8 More Word Pictures       ✓         9 Alice, Lice, Lie       ✓         10 Word Bits       ✓         11 Word Chains       ✓         12 Not Baaad!       ✓         13 Word Follow-ups       ✓         14 Vocabulary Stretches       ✓         15 A-Maze-Ing       ✓         17 Nab the Kidnapper!       ✓         18 The Fibber       ✓         19 The Cookie Monster       ✓         20 The Motorcycle in       ✓         21 A Crabby Cabby       ✓         22 Food Chain Farmer       ✓         23 Taradiddle       ✓         24 Meow Times Four       ✓         25 The Draggin' Dragons       ✓         26 Nightmare       ✓       ✓         28 What If???       ✓       ✓         29 Not to Decide       ✓       ✓					-								
8       More Word Pictures       V	6												
9 Alice, Lice, Lie	7		<b>/</b>										
10   Word Bits	8	More Word Pictures	<b>'</b>			<b>'</b>		~					
11   Word Chains	9	Alice, Lice, Lie	~	<b>/</b>									
12       Not Baaad!       ✓ <td< td=""><td>10</td><td>Word Bits</td><td>~</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>	10	Word Bits	~										
13       Word Follow-ups       V       V         14       Vocabulary Stretches       V       V         15       A-Maze-Ing       V       V         17       Nab the Kidnapper!       V       V         18       The Fibber       V       V         19       The Cookie Monster       V       V         20       The Motorcycle in       V       V         21       A Crabby Cabby       V       V         22       Food Chain Farmer       V       V         23       Taradiddle       V       V         24       Meow Times Four       V       V         25       The Draggin' Dragons       V       V         26       Nightmare       V       V         28       What If???       V       V         29       Not to Decide       V       V	11	Word Chains	~										
14       Vocabulary Stretches       V       V       V         15       A-Maze-Ing       V       V       V         17       Nab the Kidnapper!       V       V       V         18       The Fibber       V       V       V         19       The Cookie Monster       V       V       V         20       The Motorcycle in       V       V       V         21       A Crabby Cabby       V       V       V         22       Food Chain Farmer       V       V       V         23       Taradiddle       V       V       V         24       Meow Times Four       V       V       V         25       The Draggin' Dragons       V       V       V         26       Nightmare       V       V       V         28       What If???       V       V       V         29       Not to Decide       V       V       V	12	Not Baaad!	~		~		~						
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17       Nab the Kidnapper!       ✓       ✓       ✓         18       The Fibber       ✓       ✓       ✓         19       The Cookie Monster       ✓       ✓       ✓         20       The Motorcycle in       ✓       ✓       ✓         21       A Crabby Cabby       ✓       ✓       ✓         22       Food Chain Farmer       ✓       ✓       ✓         23       Taradiddle       ✓       ✓       ✓         24       Meow Times Four       ✓       ✓       ✓         25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	14	Vocabulary Stretches	~		~		<b>V</b>						
18       The Fibber       ✓       ✓       ✓         19       The Cookie Monster       ✓       ✓       ✓         20       The Motorcycle in       ✓       ✓       ✓         21       A Crabby Cabby       ✓       ✓       ✓         22       Food Chain Farmer       ✓       ✓       ✓         23       Taradiddle       ✓       ✓       ✓         24       Meow Times Four       ✓       ✓       ✓         25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	15	A-Maze-Ing						~		~			
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20       The Motorcycle in       ✓       ✓       ✓         21       A Crabby Cabby       ✓       ✓       ✓         22       Food Chain Farmer       ✓       ✓       ✓         23       Taradiddle       ✓       ✓       ✓         24       Meow Times Four       ✓       ✓       ✓         25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	18	The Fibber		<b>V</b>				<b>V</b>	~				
21       A Crabby Cabby       V       V       V         22       Food Chain Farmer       V       V       V         23       Taradiddle       V       V       V         24       Meow Times Four       V       V       V         25       The Draggin' Dragons       V       V       V         26       Nightmare       V       V       V         28       What If???       V       V       V         29       Not to Decide       V       V       V	19	The Cookie Monster		<b>V</b>				<b>V</b>	~				
22       Food Chain Farmer       V       V         23       Taradiddle       V       V         24       Meow Times Four       V       V         25       The Draggin' Dragons       V       V         26       Nightmare       V       V         28       What If???       V       V         29       Not to Decide       V       V	20	The Motorcycle in		<b>V</b>				<b>V</b>	~				
23       Taradiddle       ✓       ✓       ✓         24       Meow Times Four       ✓       ✓       ✓         25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	21	A Crabby Cabby		<b>V</b>				<b>V</b>	~				
24       Meow Times Four       ✓       ✓         25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓	22	Food Chain Farmer		<b>V</b>				~	~				
25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	23	Taradiddle		<b>✓</b>				<b>/</b>	<b>'</b>				
25       The Draggin' Dragons       ✓       ✓       ✓         26       Nightmare       ✓       ✓       ✓         28       What If???       ✓       ✓       ✓         29       Not to Decide       ✓       ✓       ✓	24	Meow Times Four		<b>/</b>				<b>'</b>					
26       Nightmare         28       What If???         29       Not to Decide	25							<b>'</b>	<b>'</b>				
28       What If???       V       V         29       Not to Decide       V       V	26			<b>/</b>				<b>'</b>	<b>/</b>				
29 Not to Decide	28	9				<b>/</b>		<b>'</b>				~	
	29	Not to Decide						<b>'</b>				~	
	30	Look out Below!				~	/	~		<b>/</b>		~	

(continued)

#### ${\bf Matrix\ of\ Critical-Thinking\ Skills\ } ({\bf continued})$

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<u> </u>		\		\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \			/	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		\ \&\ \&\ \	
31	Forever				-	~	~				•
32	Recycle Challenge				<b>/</b>	~				<b>'</b>	
33	Dictionary Madness	<b>'</b>		/	/					<b>/</b>	
34	Shrink and Stretch				/		<b>/</b>			-	
35	Peek Pocket				~	<b>V</b>				~	
36	Eggsactly				/		~		/	-	
37	Peanut Butter Is			<b>V</b>	~		~				
38	What Kind of Animal	~		~			~				
39	No Lion Around				~	V				~	
40	Imogene Ashun's	~		<b>V</b>			~				
41	Splat the Blats				V		~			~	~
42	A Pungent Problem				~		~			~	~
43	You Name It	~		/	/					~	
45	Hidden Animals	<b>'</b>		~		V					
46	Bow Wow Wower		V				~	<b>/</b>			
47	A Problem with Poetry				~		~	~	~		
48	Proverbial Wisdom	<b>'</b>	<b>V</b>				~				
49	New World		<b>'</b>				~				~
50	Egghead Nursery Rhymes	~					~	~	~		
51	Super Egghead	<b>'</b>		V			~	<b>'</b>			
52	Unmentionables	<b>'</b>			V		~		V		
53	Burn, Baby, Burn						V		~		~
54	Common Threads	·		~							
55	Above or Below?		V				V			<b>'</b>	
56	Traditional Riddles		V		<b>/</b>		V				
57	Hink Pinks	·		~	<b>/</b>						
58	Letter Soup	~	<b>/</b>	1							
59	Don't Bug Me		V				V				
60	Word Associations	· /		·						<b>/</b>	
				1			1	1		1	1

Name	Date	
name	Date	



# Common Knowledge

 ${\bf E}$  ach pair below has a word in common. The first letter of each answer is given. Fill in the common word.

1. swimming and card games	$\underline{\mathbf{s}} \ \underline{\mathbf{u}} \ \underline{\mathbf{i}} \ \underline{\mathbf{t}} \ \underline{\mathbf{s}}$
2. figure skating and refrigerator	<u>i</u>
3. baseball and bowling	<u>s</u>
4. basketball and fishing	<u>n</u>
5. auto races and train station	<u>t</u>
6. ballroom dancing and ice cream store	<u>d</u>
7. baseball and jewelry store	<u>d</u>
8. sailing and card games	<u>d</u>
9. golf and playground	<u>s</u>
10. deer hunting and wallets	<u>b</u>

Name Date	
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## **Decomposition**

Take these words apart, one letter at a time. Each time you remove a letter, the remaining letters must spell a word. Watch out! You may have to change the order of the letters.

riders ride ride rid id

barbed	salmon	pastry
_	_	_
planter	steamer	rasping
_	_	_

Name	Date	
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### Alice, Lice, Lie



ewis Carroll, the author of *Alice in Wonderland* and *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, invented this game. It's called *Doublets*. To solve a doublet, you change one word into another, one letter at a time. Each time you change a letter, you must form a real word.

Example:	must
	mast
	cast
	can't

Watch out! You will have to switch the order of the letters to solve some of these doublets.

1.	WARM	2.	LOSE	3.	MORE
	COLD		FIND		LESS
4.	NONE	5.	HARD	6.	SHOW
	SOME	-			
			SOFT		
					TELL

