Which Circle is Bigger?
What is critical thinking?

- Critical thinking is self-guided, self-disciplined thinking which attempts to reason at the highest level of quality in a fair-minded way.

- What are some problems with people’s thinking in general?

- What are some benefits for well cultivated critical thinking for you personally and for your organization?
Inferences and Assumptions

Conscious Level of Thinking

Information
(situation)

Inference
(conclusion)

Assumption

Unconscious Level of Thinking
Inferences and Assumptions

Person One

- Situation: A man is lying in the gutter.
- Inference: That man is a bum.
- Assumption: Only bums lie in gutters.

Person Two

- Situation: A man is lying in the gutter.
- Inference: That man is in need of help.
- Assumption: Anyone lying in the gutter is in need of help.
Pearson’s RED Critical Thinking Model

To Think Critically, Think RED

Keys to CRITICAL THINKING

REcognize Assumptions
EValuate Arguments
DRaw Conclusions
A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened the cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up, and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.