

Analyze the author's reasoning with critical questions...

1. Focus on the author's **PURPOSE**:
 - What is the author's purpose?
 - Is it well stated and clearly implied?
 - Is it justifiable?
2. Focus on the **KEY QUESTION**:
 - What is the key question? Is it stated or implied?
 - Is it clear and unbiased?
 - Does the expression of the question do justice to the complexity of the issue?
 - Are the question and purpose relevant to each other?
3. Focus on the **INFORMATION**:
 - Does the author cite relevant evidence, experiences, or information essential to the issue?
 - Is the information accurate?
 - Does the author address the complexity of the issue?
4. Focus on the fundamental **CONCEPTS**:
 - What concept(s) are at the heart of the author's reasoning?
 - Are the concepts clear?
 - Are the ideas relevant and significant?
5. Focus on the **ASSUMPTIONS**:
 - What are the author's assumptions?
 - What is the author taking for granted or assuming?
 - Are the assumptions questionable? What are the problems with the assumptions?
6. Focus on the most important **INFERENCES/CONCLUSIONS**:
 - What are the conclusions?
 - Do they follow logically from the information relevant to the issue?
 - Does the author consider alternative conclusions when the issue is complex?
 - Identify the flaws in the reasoning (if any).
7. Focus on the **POINT OF VIEW**:
 - What is the author's point of view (bias)?
 - Are alternative view points considered?
 - Does the author respond to objections from other view points?
8. Focus on **IMPLICATIONS**:
 - What are the implications of the author's position?
 - What are the consequences of the author's position?