

Circles of Truth

Watch out for when it's not very clear what you or someone else is saying

Take Stock Of What You Know

What different sides do you know about? What evidence & arguments do you know about – for any side of the issue?

Evaluate the Evidence and Arguments

How reliable, balanced and complete are the evidence & arguments?

Pin Down the Issue or Claim

Exactly what is the question?

Investigate the Issue

What can you do to find out more information – look in a book, ask an expert, look for clues, conduct a test?

Watch out for looking for information only on “your” side. Make sure to look for reasons on the other sides.

Summarize Your Position

Where do you stand – true, not true, uncertain? Should you seek more information?

Watch out for having a strong opinion without evidence. It's often better to remain open, and wait for more evidence.