

The Journey from Dependent to Independent Learning

Five Rs: **Reasoning Learners**, Reflective Learners, Resilient Learners, Resourceful Learners, Responsible Learners

Reasoning Learners

Defining learning characteristics of Stage 1 and 2 learners:

Can explain thinking	With help you can talk about how you solved a problem or arrived at a decision.
Consider all the evidence	With help you can choose evidence to support your argument or to make a decision. You listen to different points of view and can list some basic pros and cons in each argument.
Choose the best method or thinking tool	You use advice given to you by your teacher about the best way to tackle a problem or task. You make use of a small number of graphic organisers to sort or group information.
Take time to think things through	You sometimes rush into things but you are beginning to see the importance of taking time to think. With some guidance you plan the work you are going to do and review how well you are doing.

Defining characteristics of Stage3 learners:

Can explain thinking	You are able to talk about how you solved a problem or arrived at a decision. You can comment on how well your approach worked.
Consider all the evidence	You can make use of more than one source of evidence on which to base your decisions. You listen to different points of view and can distinguish the pros and cons between different arguments.
Choose the best method or thinking tool	You can see a number of different ways to approach a problem or task and with help from your teacher you can choose the best one to use. You can use a range of graphic organisers and can explain why you are using them.
Take time to think things through	You usually take time to think things through by yourself or with a group. You can explain why this is important. You can use planning sheets or proformas to help you with your planning.

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Defining characteristics of Stage 4 and 5 learners

Can explain thinking	You are always ready to discuss how you solved a problem or arrived at a decision. You can evaluate the quality of your approach and use this to inform future thinking and planning
Consider all the evidence	You are able to collect and evaluate evidence from a number of different sources and can explain the importance of doing so. You see the value of inviting different points of view and can compare and contrast the relative merits of different arguments
Choose the best method or thinking tool	You know there are always a number of different ways to approach a task or problem. You think around a problem, choose the best method of tackling it and can justify your decision. You independently make use of a range of thinking tools.
Take time to think things through	You spend time thinking things through and consider the information you have been given. You will put off making a decision if necessary. You plan carefully, including deadlines and review times and adjust your plans if needs be