

Chapter 2. Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Which characteristic do the various definitions of *critical thinking* have in common?
 - 1) Requires reasoned thought
 - 2) Asks the questions “why?” or “how?”
 - 3) Is a hierarchical process
 - 4) Demands specialized thinking skills

ANS: 1

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Give one definition and one example of *critical thinking*.

Chapter page reference: p. 28

Heading: What Is Critical Thinking?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	The definitions listed in the text as well as definitions in Box 2-1 state that critical thinking requires reasoning or reasoned thinking. Critical thinking is neither linear nor hierarchical. That means that the steps involved in critical thinking are not necessarily sequential, where mastery of one step is necessary to proceed to the next. Critical thinking is a purposeful, dynamic, analytic process that contributes to reasoned decisions and sound contextual judgments.
2	This is not a characteristic that the various definitions of <i>critical thinking</i> have in common.
3	This is not a characteristic that the various definitions of <i>critical thinking</i> have in common.
4	This is not a characteristic that the various definitions of <i>critical thinking</i> have in common.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

2. A few nurses on a unit have proposed to the nurse manager that the process for documenting care on the unit be changed. They have described a completely new system. The nurse should have a critical attitude because it helps the manager to do which item?
 - 1) Consider all the possible advantages and disadvantages.
 - 2) Maintain an open mind about the proposed change.
 - 3) Apply the nursing process to the situation.
 - 4) Make a decision based on past experience with documentation.

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: List and discuss seven attitudes of the critical thinker.

Chapter page reference: p. 29

Heading: Why Is Critical Thinking Important for Nurses?

Integrated Processes: Communication and Documentation
 Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care
 Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]
 Concept: Communication
 Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	A critical attitude does not allow the manager to consider all the possible advantages and disadvantages.
2	A critical attitude enables the person to think fairly and keep an open mind.
3	A critical attitude does not allow the manager to apply the nursing process to the situation.
4	A critical attitude does not allow the manager to make a decision based on past experience with documentation.

PTS: 1 CON: Communication

3. The nurse has just been assigned to the clinical care of a newly admitted patient. To know how to best care for the patient, the nurse uses the nursing process. Which step would the nurse probably do first?
- 1) Assessment
 - 2) Diagnosis
 - 3) Plan outcomes
 - 4) Plan interventions

ANS: 1

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process
 Chapter learning objective: Describe the six overlapping and interdependent phases of the nursing process.
 Chapter page reference: p. 33
 Heading: What Is the Nursing Process?
 Integrated Processes: Nursing Process
 Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care
 Cognitive level: Application [Applying]
 Concept: Patient-Centered Care
 Difficulty: Moderate

	Feedback
1	Assessment is the first step of the nursing process.
2	The nursing diagnosis is derived from the data gathered during assessment.
3	Nursing outcomes are derived from the diagnosis.
4	Nursing interventions are derived from the outcomes.

PTS: 1 CON: Patient-Centered Care

4. Which is an example of theoretical knowledge?
- 1) A nurse uses sterile technique to catheterize a patient.
 - 2) Room air has an oxygen concentration of 21%.
 - 3) Glucose monitoring machines should be calibrated daily.
 - 4) An irregular apical heart rate should be compared with the radial pulse.

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process
 Chapter learning objective: List the four types of nursing knowledge discussed in this chapter.
 Chapter page reference: p. 33
 Heading: What Are the Different Kinds of Nursing Knowledge?
 Integrated Processes: Nursing Process
 Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care
 Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]
 Concept: Patient-Centered Care
 Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	This is an example of practical knowledge—what to do and how to do it.
2	Theoretical knowledge consists of research findings, facts, principles, and theories. The oxygen concentration of room air is a scientific fact.
3	This is an example of practical knowledge—what to do and how to do it.
4	This is an example of practical knowledge—what to do and how to do it.

PTS: 1 CON: Patient-Centered Care

5. Which is an example of practical knowledge?
- 1) The tricuspid valve is between the right atrium and ventricle of the heart.
 - 2) The pancreas does not produce enough insulin in type 1 diabetes.
 - 3) When assessing the abdomen, you should auscultate before palpating.
 - 4) Research shows pain medication given intravenously acts faster than by other routes.

ANS: 3

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process
 Chapter learning objective: List the four types of nursing knowledge discussed in this chapter.
 Chapter page reference: p. 33
 Heading: What Are the Different Kinds of Nursing Knowledge?
 Integrated Processes: Nursing Process
 Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care
 Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]
 Concept: Patient-Centered Care
 Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	The others are examples of theoretical knowledge, anatomy (tricuspid valve), fact (type 1 diabetes), and research (IV pain medication).
2	The others are examples of theoretical knowledge, anatomy (tricuspid valve), fact (type 1 diabetes), and research (IV pain medication).
3	Practical knowledge is knowing what to do and how to do it, such as how to do an assessment.
4	The others are examples of theoretical knowledge, anatomy (tricuspid valve), fact (type 1 diabetes), and research (IV pain medication).

PTS: 1 CON: Patient-Centered Care

6. Which is an example of self-knowledge if thought or stated by the nurse?
- 1) "I know that I should take the client's apical pulse for 1 minute before giving

digoxin.”

- 2) “I know that I should follow the client’s wishes even though it is not what I would want.”
- 3) “I know that I have religious beliefs that may make it difficult to take care of some clients.”
- 4) “I know that I need to honor the client’s request not to discuss his health concern with the family.”

ANS: 3

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: List the four types of nursing knowledge discussed in this chapter.

Chapter page reference: p. 33

Heading: What Are the Different Kinds of Nursing Knowledge?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Application [Applying]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Moderate

	Feedback
1	Taking the pulse is an example of practical knowledge.
2	Following client wishes and honoring client requests are examples of ethical knowledge.
3	Self-knowledge is being aware of your religious and cultural beliefs and values.
4	Following client wishes and honoring client requests are examples of ethical knowledge.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

7. Which is the most important reason for nurses to be critical thinkers?
 - 1) Nurses need to follow policies and procedures.
 - 2) Nurses work with other healthcare team members.
 - 3) Nurses care for clients who have multiple health problems.
 - 4) Nurses have to be flexible and work variable schedules.

ANS: 3

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Explain how critical thinking is used in the nursing process.

Chapter page reference: p. 29

Heading: Why Is Critical Thinking Important for Nurses?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	Following policies and procedures does not necessarily require critical thinking, and working with others or being flexible and working different schedules do not necessarily require critical thinking.
2	Following policies and procedures does not necessarily require critical thinking, and working with others or being flexible and working different schedules do

	not necessarily require critical thinking.
3	Critical thinking is essential for client care, particularly when the care is complex, involving numerous health issues.
4	Following policies and procedures does not necessarily require critical thinking, and working with others or being flexible and working different schedules do not necessarily require critical thinking.

PTS: 1 CON: Patient-Centered Care

8. The nurse administering pain medication every 4 hours is an example of which aspect of patient care?
- 1) Assessment data
 - 2) Nursing diagnosis
 - 3) Patient outcome
 - 4) Nursing intervention

ANS: 4

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Describe the six overlapping and interdependent phases of the nursing process.

Chapter page reference: p. 33

Heading: What Is the Nursing Process?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy N

Feedback	
1	An example of assessment data might be, "Patient reports pain is a 5 on a 1 to 10 scale."
2	The nursing diagnosis would be Pain.
3	The nurse might define the patient outcome in this scenario as, "The patient will state the level of pain is less than 4."
4	Interventions are activities that will help the patient achieve a goal, such as administering pain-relieving medication.

PTS: 1 CON: Patient-Centered Care

9. Which differentiates a nursing diagnosis from a medical diagnosis?
- 1) Terminology for the client's disease or injury
 - 2) A part of the client's medical diagnosis
 - 3) The client's presenting signs and symptoms
 - 4) A client's response to a health problem

ANS: 4

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Describe the six overlapping and interdependent phases of the nursing process.

Chapter page reference: p. 33

Heading: What Is the Nursing Process?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	This does not differentiate a nursing diagnosis from a medical diagnosis.
2	This does not differentiate a nursing diagnosis from a medical diagnosis.
3	This does not differentiate a nursing diagnosis from a medical diagnosis.
4	A nursing diagnosis is the client's response to actual or potential health problems.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

10. Which statement about the nursing process is correct?

- 1) It was developed from the ANA Standards of Care.
- 2) It is a problem-solving method to guide nursing activities.
- 3) It is a linear process with separate, distinct steps.
- 4) It involves care that only the nurse will give.

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Describe the six overlapping and interdependent phases of the nursing process.

Chapter page reference: p. 33

Heading: What Is the Nursing Process?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	The ANA organizes its Standards of Care around the nursing process, but the process was not developed from the standards.
2	The nursing process is a problem-solving process that guides nursing actions.
3	The nursing process is cyclical and involves care the nurses give or delegate to other members of the healthcare team.
4	The nursing process is cyclical and involves care the nurses give or delegate to other members of the healthcare team.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

11. What do critical thinking and the nursing process have in common?

- 1) They are both linear processes used to guide one's thinking.
- 2) They are both thinking methods used to solve a problem.
- 3) They both use specific steps to solve a problem.
- 4) They both use similar steps to solve a problem.

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Explain how critical thinking is used in the nursing process.

Chapter page reference: p. 29

Heading: Why Is Critical Thinking Important for Nurses?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	Neither method of thinking is linear.
2	Critical thinking and the nursing process are ways of thinking that can be used in problem solving (although critical thinking can be used beyond problem-solving applications).
3	The nursing process has specific steps; critical thinking does not.
4	The nursing process has specific steps; critical thinking does not.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

12. A nurse admits a patient to the unit after completing a comprehensive interview and physical examination. Which action must the nurse implement to develop a nursing diagnosis?
- 1) Analyze the assessment data
 - 2) Consult standards of care
 - 3) Decide which interventions are appropriate
 - 4) Ask the client's perceptions of her health problem

ANS: 1

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

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Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Application [Applying]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Moderate

	Feedback
1	The basis of the nursing diagnosis is the assessment data.
2	Standards of care are referred to when establishing nursing interventions.
3	Customizing interventions personalizes nursing care.
4	Asking the client about her perceptions is a method to validate whether the nurse has chosen the correct nursing diagnosis and would probably have been done during the comprehensive assessment.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

13. The nurse developed a care plan for a patient to help prevent Impaired Skin Integrity. The nurse ensured the nursing assistive personnel changed the patient's position every 2 hours. In the evaluation phase of the nursing process, which would the nurse do *first*?

- 1) Determine whether she has gathered enough assessment data.
- 2) Judge whether the interventions achieved the stated outcomes.
- 3) Follow up to verify that care for the nursing diagnosis was given.
- 4) Decide whether the nursing diagnosis was accurate for the patient's condition.

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

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Chapter page reference: p. 33

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Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Application [Applying]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Moderate

Feedback	
1	The nurse would not implement this action first in the evaluation phase of the nursing process.
2	The evaluation phase judges whether the interventions were effective in achieving the desired outcomes and helped to alleviate the nursing diagnosis. This must be done before examining the nursing process steps and revising the care plan.
3	The nurse would not implement this action first in the evaluation phase of the nursing process.
4	The nurse would not implement this action first in the evaluation phase of the nursing process. N

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

14. In caring for a patient with comorbidities, the nurse draws upon her knowledge of diabetes and skin integrity. In a spirit of inquiry, she looks up the latest guidelines for providing skin care and includes them in the plan of care. The nurse provides skin care according to the procedural guidelines and begins regular monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions. Which best describes these activities?
- 1) Full-spectrum nursing
 - 2) Critical thinking
 - 3) Nursing process
 - 4) Nursing knowledge

ANS: 1

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: Name and describe the main concepts of the full-spectrum nursing model.

Chapter page reference: p. 34

Heading: What Is Full-Spectrum Nursing?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	Full-spectrum nursing involves the use of critical thinking, nursing knowledge, nursing process, and patient situation.
2	Although critical thinking is important for planning and delivering nursing care, it does not reflect all the nurse has demonstrated.
3	Although the nursing process is important for planning and delivering nursing care, it does not reflect all the nurse has demonstrated.
4	Although nursing knowledge is important for planning and delivering nursing care, it does not reflect all the nurse has demonstrated.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

15. The nurse is preparing to admit a patient from the emergency department. The transferring nurse reports that the patient is obese. The nurse has been overweight at one time and works very hard now to maintain a healthy weight. She immediately thinks, "I know I tend to feel negatively about obese people; I figure if I can stop eating, they should be able to. I must remember how very difficult that is and be very careful not to be judgmental of this patient." Which is the nurse illustrating?
- 1) Theoretical knowledge
 - 2) Self-knowledge
 - 3) Using reliable resources
 - 4) Use of the nursing process

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: List the four types of nursing knowledge discussed in this chapter.

Chapter page reference: p. 33

Heading: What Are the Different Kinds of Nursing Knowledge?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care

Cognitive level: Comprehension [Understanding]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Easy

	Feedback
1	Theoretical knowledge consists of information, facts, principles, and theories in nursing and related disciplines; it consists of research findings and rationally constructed explanations of phenomena.
2	Self-knowledge is self-understanding—awareness of one's beliefs, values, biases, and so on. That best describes the nurse's awareness that her bias can affect her patient care.
3	Using reliable resources is a critical-thinking skill. The nursing process is a problem-solving process consisting of the steps of assessing, diagnosing, planning outcomes, planning interventions, implementing, and evaluating.
4	The nurse has not yet met this patient, so she could not have begun the nursing process.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

16. During an assessment of a newly admitted client the nurse measures blood pressure, abdominal circumference, and pulse rate. Which critical-thinking skill is the nurse using?
- 1) Recognizing gaps in one's own knowledge
 - 2) Recognizing the need for more information
 - 3) Objectively gathering information on a problem or issue
 - 4) Evaluating the credibility and usefulness of sources of information

ANS: 3

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: List and describe at least six critical-thinking skills.

Chapter page reference: p. 28

Heading: What Are Critical-Thinking Skills?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Health Promotion and Maintenance

Cognitive level: Application [Applying]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Moderate

	Feedback
1	Obtaining client assessment data is not recognizing gaps in one's own knowledge.
2	If more information were needed about any particular data, the nurse would focus on that body system.
3	Obtaining data that can be verified by someone else is considered objective data.
4	Evaluating the credibility and usefulness of sources of information applies to research studies.

PTS: 1

CON: Patient-Centered Care

17. The nurse maintains eye contact while a client explains the symptoms of a current health problem. Which critical-thinking skill is the nurse using?
- 1) Separating relevant from irrelevant data
 - 2) Listening carefully; reading thoughtfully
 - 3) Organizing or grouping information in meaningful ways
 - 4) Making inferences about the meaning of the information

ANS: 2

Chapter number and title: 2, Critical Thinking & the Nursing Process

Chapter learning objective: List and describe at least six critical-thinking skills.

Chapter page reference: p. 28

Heading: What Are Critical-Thinking Skills?

Integrated Processes: Nursing Process

Client Need: Health Promotion and Maintenance

Cognitive level: Application [Applying]

Concept: Patient-Centered Care

Difficulty: Moderate

	Feedback
1	Listening to a client talk is not separating relevant from irrelevant data.
2	Listening to a client talk demonstrates the critical-thinking skill of listening carefully.
3	Listening to a client talk is not organizing or grouping information in a