

## Lesson 10: Criticism

Hi! Welcome to the Article Discussion lesson!

Today's topic is about "*Criticism.*"

Have fun learning English!

### Activity 1 | Vocabulary and Expressions

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**Directions:** Listen and repeat.

#### Vocabulary

- **articulate** – able to express or explain the thoughts or feelings easily and clearly
- **contradict** - to oppose; to express the opposite; deny the statement
- **betimes** – (especially North American) at times, occasionally
- **envy** - the feeling of wanting something that someone else has; jealousy
- **constructive** - having a useful effect rather than being negative or ineffective
- **antagonistic** – actively opposing or showing unfriendliness towards someone or something
- **foible** – a minor weakness in someone's character
- **notwithstanding** – nevertheless, in spite of

## Activity 2 | Article

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**Directions:** Read the article aloud with your teacher.

### Criticism

The effects of criticism on one's brain probably originated at the very beginning of humankind. Each person has faced criticism at least once during their lifetime, as it is an intrinsic part of social interactions. Criticism is the practice of judging the assets and errors of something or someone in an intelligible or **articulate** way.

Criticism can be divided into two categories: constructive and destructive. Offensive criticism is an opposing one; the critic passes a judgment in a **contradicting** manner. **Betimes**, criticism is deeply engrained in **envy** and turns hostile when the critic's sole purpose is to convey a false impression about an individual.

Conversely, positive criticism can be construed as a means of offering well-reasoned opinions that can be both positive and negative about someone in a pleasant manner, rather than an **antagonistic** one. **Constructive** criticism is quite beneficial to personal development. It provides people with a chance to reflect on their **foibles** and **augment** their strengths accordingly.

**Notwithstanding** the type of criticism we are faced with, we should always bear in mind the fact that in order to improve and emerge stronger, we must accept and utilize its effects in the best possible way.

## Activity 3 | Question and Answer

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**Directions:** Answer these questions about the article.

1. According to the essay, what does criticism mean?
2. Why do we all face criticism?
3. What types of criticism are there?
4. What makes constructive criticism helpful for us?
5. Why is negative criticism bad for an individual?

## Activity 4 | Summary

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**Directions:** Make a summary of this article, focusing on the main topic. After that, your teacher will give you an example of the summary.

## Activity 5 | Thoughts

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**Directions:** Read the following quote and share your opinion with the teacher:

“The trouble with most of us is that we would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism.”

1. Do you agree with this statement? Why?
2. In what ways can criticism save us? How can praise ruin us?
3. In social interactions, which do you think is more important: criticism or praise?

## Activity 6 | Free Conversation

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**Directions:** Answer these questions related to the topic of the article. Have a free conversation about it with your teacher.

1. Have you ever criticized someone?
2. When was the last time you received criticism?
3. How would you criticize someone's mistakes in a positive way?
4. What kind of criticism can hurt people?
5. Do you like receiving criticism? Why or why not?
6. In your opinion, how should people deal with criticism?
7. "Sandwich every bit of criticism between two layers of praise." How do you understand this quote? Why is this important?
8. Should there be a limit to criticism? Is there something that we should not criticize? Why?
9. Do you think the only way to avoid criticism is to say nothing, do nothing, and be nothing? If not, how can we avoid it?
10. What are the dangers of criticizing something you do not understand?