

OVERVIEW: This guide provides detailed step-by-step instructions on how to discover your personal core values and to use personal values in meaningful ways. As a business coach, I appreciate the power of values.

Posted by Hasan Zaman Mohd. Hence, at first glance almost every argument appears to "make sense. But the visible, stated reasons are not the only ideas that serve to prove or support the conclusion. Hidden or unstated beliefs may be at least as significant in understanding the argument. Local law enforcement needs to do more to impose consequences for littering. Obviously, people are not taking enough initiative on their own to follow the laws; therefore, city police have to do something. How can we expect change without enforcement? The reason "at first glance" supports the conclusion. But it is also possible that the reason given can be true and yet not necessarily support the conclusion. If so, from your perspective, the reason no longer supports the conclusion. This reasoning is convincing to you only if you agree with certain unstated ideas that the writer has taken for granted. In this case, one idea taken for granted is that collective responsibility is more desirable than individual responsibility. In all arguments, there will be certain ideas taken for granted by the writer. Typically, these ideas will not be stated. You will have to find them by reading between the lines. These ideas are important invisible links in the reasoning structure, the glue that holds the entire argument together. Until you supply these links, you cannot truly understand the argument. If you miss the hidden links, you will often find yourself believing something that had you been more reflective, you would never have accepted. This chapter can be particularly useful to you as a critical thinker because it prepares you to look at the full argument, not just its more attractive features. As another illustration, consider why you should work hard to master the skills and attitudes contained in this book. There are all kinds of reasons why you should not learn critical thinking. Careful thought is much more demanding of our energies than would be another decision-making approach like flipping a coin or asking the nearest self-confident expert what you should think and do. But this text is encouraging you to learn critical thinking. We are telling you that critical thinking is advantageous for you. But our advice is based on some invisible beliefs, and if you do not share those beliefs, our advice should not be followed. Critical thinkers believe that autonomy, curiosity, and reasonableness are among the most important of human objectives. Later in this chapter, we learn to refer to ideas like autonomy, curiosity, and reasonableness as values. The end-product of critical thinking is someone who is open to multiple points of view, assesses those perspectives with reason, and then uses that assessment to make decisions about what to believe and what actions to take. We trust that you like that portrayal of life and, consequently, that you will want to be a critical thinker. Your task is similar in many ways to having to reproduce a magic trick without having seen how the magician did the trick. To understand the trick, you must discover these maneuvers. Likewise, in arguments, you must discover the hidden maneuvers, which, in actuality, are unstated ideas. We shall refer to these unstated ideas as assumptions. To fully understand an argument, you must identify the assumptions. This chapter and the next one will show you how to discover assumptions. We will focus on one kind of assumption in this chapter—value assumptions. But identifying assumptions is more valuable than just the positive impact it has on your own reasoning. Critical thinking necessarily involves other people who are concerned about the same issues as you. When you identify assumptions and make them explicit in your interactions with others, you make a tremendous contribution to the quality of the reasoning in our community as well. For instance, the Associated Press recently ran an account of a study from the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank. The study concluded that good looking people tend to make more money and get promoted more often than those who are just average looking. As a critical thinker, you can question the assumptions behind such a report and, in so doing, prevent us from quickly embracing arguments that use such data to support their conclusions. Democracy badly needs just this kind of cautious reflection. What are the value conflicts and assumptions? General Guide for Identifying Assumptions When you seek assumptions, where and how should you look? Numerous assumptions exist in any book, discussion, or article, but you need to be concerned about relatively few. As you remember, the visible structure of an argument consists of reasons and conclusions. Thus, you are interested only in assumptions that

affect the quality of this structure. You can restrict your search for assumptions, therefore, to the structure you have already learned how to identify. In particular, there are two places to look for assumptions. Look for assumptions needed for the reasons to support the conclusions linkage assumptions and look for ones necessary for a reason to be true. We first introduce you to assumptions that are extremely influential in prescriptive arguments—value assumptions. Look for value assumptions in the movement from reasons to conclusion! Note that the reasons and conclusion are also the place where we search for significant ambiguity. Once again, we are showing great respect for the importance in a speech or an essay of the reasons and the conclusion. An assumption is an unstated belief that supports the explicit reasoning. Value Conflicts and Assumptions Why is it that some very reasonable people shout that abortion is murder, while other equally reasonable observers see abortion as humane? Have you ever wondered why every U. How can some highly intelligent observers attack the publication of sexually explicit magazines and others defend their publication as the ultimate test of our Bill of Rights? One extremely important reason for these different conclusions is the existence of value conflicts, or the differing values that stem from different frames of reference. In fact, the reasons will logically support the conclusion only if the value assumption is added to the reasoning. The small argument below illustrates the role of a value assumption in a prescriptive argument. We should not legalize recreational drugs. Illegal drugs cause too much street violence and other crimes. Value assumptions are very important assumptions for such arguments because they are directing the reasoning from behind a screen. The person trying to communicate with you may or may not be aware of these assumptions. You should make it a habit to identify the value assumptions on which the reasons are based. By value assumption, we mean a taken-for-granted belief about the relative desirability of certain competing values. When authors take a position on a social controversy, they typically prefer one value over another value—they have value priorities or preferences. This awareness will help you locate and evaluate this important type of assumption.

Discovering Values Before you can discover the importance of values in shaping conclusions, you must have some understanding of what a value is. Values, as we will use the term, are ideas that someone thinks are worthwhile. Usually objects, experiences, and actions are desired because of some idea we value. For example, we may choose to do things that provide us with contacts with important people. We value "important people" concrete idea because we value "status" abstract idea. When we use the word value in this chapter, we will be referring to an abstract idea representing what someone thinks is important and good. Values are the unstated ideas that people see as worthwhile. They provide standards of conduct by which we measure the quality of human behavior. To better familiarize yourself with values, write down some of your own values. Try to avoid writing down the names of people, tangible objects, or actions. Pizza and playing tennis may be important to you, but it is the importance you assign to abstract ideas that most influences your choices and behavior concerning controversial public issues. Your willingness to argue for or against capital punishment, for instance, is strongly related to the importance you assign to the sanctity of human life—an abstract idea. The sanctity of human life is a value that affects our opinions about war, abortion, drug usage, and mercy killing. As you create your list of values, focus on those that are so significant that they affect your opinions and behavior in many ways. Did you have problems making your list? We can suggest two further aids that may help. Values are standards of conduct that we endorse and expect people to meet. When we expect our political representatives to "tell the truth," we are indicating to them and to ourselves that honesty is one of our most cherished values. Ask yourself what you expect your friends to be like. What standards of conduct would you want your children to develop? Answers to these questions should help you enlarge your understanding of values. Now let us give you an aid for identifying values—a list of some commonly held values. Every value on our list may be an attractive candidate for your list. Thus, after you look at our list, pause for a moment and choose those values that are most important to you. They will be those values that most often play a role in shaping your opinions and behavior. From Values to Value Assumptions To identify value assumptions, we must go beyond a simple listing of values. Others share many of your values. Because many values are shared, values by themselves are not a powerful guide to understanding.

Chapter 2 : Discovering the Value of Unified Communications

Discovering Your Authentic Core Values walks you step-by-step through the process of identifying your authentic core values. These are not your aspirational values, the ones you wish were true of you.

How Values Help You Values exist, whether you recognize them or not. Life can be much easier when you acknowledge your values and when you make plans and decisions that honor them. If you value family, but you have to work hour weeks in your job, will you feel internal stress and conflict? In these types of situations, understanding your values can really help. When you know your own values, you can use them to make decisions about how to live your life, and you can answer questions like these: What job should I pursue? Should I accept this promotion? Should I start my own business? Should I compromise, or be firm with my position? Should I follow tradition, or travel down a new path? Also, as you move through life, your values may change. For example, when you start your career, success measured by money and status might be a top priority. But after you have a family, work-life balance may be what you value more. As your definition of success changes, so do your personal values. This is why keeping in touch with your values is a lifelong exercise. You should continuously revisit this, especially if you start to feel unbalanced. As you go through the exercise below, bear in mind that values that were important in the past may not be relevant now. A good way of starting to do this is to look back on your life to identify when you felt really good, and really confident that you were making good choices. Identify the times when you were happiest. Find examples from both your career and personal life. This will ensure some balance in your answers. What were you doing? Were you with other people? What other factors contributed to your happiness? Identify the times when you were most proud. Use examples from your career and personal life. Why were you proud? Did other people share your pride? What other factors contributed to your feelings of pride? Finding This Article Useful? Identify the times when you were most fulfilled and satisfied. Again, use both work and personal examples. What need or desire was fulfilled? How and why did the experience give your life meaning? What other factors contributed to your feelings of fulfillment? Determine your top values, based on your experiences of happiness, pride, and fulfillment. Why is each experience truly important and memorable? Use the following list of common personal values to help you get started and aim for about 10 top values. As you work through, you may find that some of these naturally combine. For instance, if you value philanthropy, community, and generosity, you might say that service to others is one of your top values.

Chapter 3 : The Three Steps To Articulating Value | The Story of Telling

Affirmation Book: Discovering The Value of Who You Are. The book is endorsed by the First Lady of Sri Lanka who said, "The children are the architects of a positive future and reading and self- esteem are the building blocks."

Then you probably worked with a manager who leads from her values. Leading with values is a leadership philosophy that steps outside of measuring success by prestige, personal wealth and power. It is not about emulating the great leaders of yesteryear. Instead, it is a practice of identifying what matters to you, what you stand for and what values you have in your life. With this basis of knowing your purpose, making the right decisions in life and leadership becomes easy. Making the right decisions is only the beginning. Leading with values is important for leaders because it creates and maintains company culture, informs employee selection, guides the direction of company growth, and adds meaning to the work required to maintain the organization. That meaning starts with the leader, and passes down to all levels of the team. What is a value? Just as organizations have values, individuals do too. Most people have approximately core values that identify who they are at their core. Values reflect who we are on a daily basis, in everything we do at home and at work. This holistic approach helps us be a leader in all aspects of our life, not just in our careers. Why do I need to know my values? Values give us our sense of purpose. Think of it as a tree: The strength of the values determines the strength of the trunk, branches, leaves and fruit from year to year. A strong tree supports the ecosystem around it; a leader with strong values supports the organizational culture. Let me give you a personal example. One of my core values is named "Wind in Your Face", which means the spirit of adventure or the feeling that I get when sitting on top of a safari vehicle with the wind blowing in my face. How do I align this with my decision-making? When evaluating a potential client, I will assess how much my client and I will stretch and grow while working together. If I feel that this potential client will provide mutual opportunity for growth, I will likely take the job. Values are like a compass that points us to our "true north. When everything felt aligned? It may have even felt like the best day of your life. Take some time to remember this peak moment and follow these steps: Describe this peak moment in detail. If you are working on this exercise alone, write the description. If you are doing this exercise with someone, talk about this moment for minutes while the other person takes notes. Here is an excerpt from my own peak moment: One of my peak moments was taking leaders on Safaris for the Soul , African safaris that I co-created with Brian Emerson. I loved watching the leaders grow and develop during the two-week program. I remember clearly the blue sky and green savannah, hearing the wildlife sounds, and smelling fresh nature. Think about and discuss what values are recognizable in this particular peak moment. From the peak moment described above, you could say I value: Being outdoors Working with people to develop their potential Being adventurous 3. Remember that your values apply to both your personal and professional worlds. Define what the chosen value or values mean to YOU. Choose a value name that resonates with YOU. Most people would name the value I identified simply as "adventurous". Instead the name "wind in your face" is much more memorable for me as a core value. Continue the process until you define approximately 5 core values. Here are three practical tips to help you begin the process. Before making a decision, follow these five steps: First, review your list of values. For this exercise, it is best to have your values written down. Then ask yourself this question about the value you have listed as number one: Ask the same question about each value on your list. Lastly, evaluate the score. Your aim is to get a score of seven or higher on average. If you score below seven, the decision or opportunity may not align enough with your values to be considered. Check in on your values daily Ideally, you should "check in" on your values daily. If daily feels like too much, try weekly. Personally, I do this on the way home from work. I ask myself, "How well did my decisions and behavior align with value 1 today? It keeps you focused and in touch with what is important to you. This keeps them front and center in your mind. Here are some easy ways to remind yourself of your values on a regular basis: Find a picture that represents one of your values and keep it somewhere you will see it daily. Choose a song to represent one or more of your values and listen to it once a day as part of your morning, afternoon, or evening ritual. Discussing values is powerful and relevant to any leader. Feel free to email me, tell me on Twitter , or leave a comment below.

Chapter 4 : Discovering Value Within BETVICTOR Sports Betting Promotions and Bonuses - Big Bet Book

Discovering how to Love Reading, to Read More and Smarter Instead focus on having a better process for discovering good books. Recommend this post in favor of the value of reading.

Home Department of English "Creative writing has been a happy part of my life since I first learned to hold a pencil, so once I chose Gustavus, I considered my career as an English major a given. Perhaps I am a rare bird for that, being so sure of myself so soon. But I could not have anticipated how much I learned about the value of reading, in every area of life, through the English major; nor did I see its potential to shape me as a writer. The theory taught alongside literature, in combination with this analysis, gives you the power of perspective that is so essential to finding contentment and peace in communication with people who are different from you, in a way that is unique to the study of literature. To write you have to read, and to really read, you have to think, criticize, doubt, wonder, and stand amazed by words on the page. The English major showed me how to do that, and not only has it increased my skills as a writer, it has made me a more compassionate and honest person. Literature is both intensely personal as well as a communal experience. I love examining how words, sentences, characters, plot-lines and tropes reveal who we are as humans. Humanity is a complicated thing, and requires an infinite amount of words to describe and analyze. Some make-believe stuff that people invented to make English seem scientific. As I understand it, those feelings are not uncommon. The difference for me, though as compared to some other people I know, is that I grew out of them. I started really looking at rhetorical devices, and the use of language. I started to see that, although it still was not science, it was art, and art is the greatest expression of that which is human. And it is a good feeling to know a lot about it. However, that is not my greatest concern. Most of all, my goal is to learn as much as I can about the human condition, and what it really means to be human, in all aspects. I am confident that my choice to be an English major is one that I will be satisfied with. Thus far, in my opinion, to be an English major entails more than just being able to read and write well. An English major must also strive to understand and interpret the importance that various forms of literature have had on the society of the past and the present. Being able to express opinions is another important aspect, as is starting a piece of literature with an open mind. These habits are also important when facing everyday life, not just literature. The chance to read and write is something that everyone should be able to experience. Whether it is studied in the classroom, read for pleasure or purpose, literature is a central part of many lives. In my case, having the opportunity to study literature in two different languages has helped me to find similarities in two different cultures, and to also find that although literature varies in form and content, it is important and it is a central part of many lives. After mastering these elementary skills, comprehension, analysis, and interpretation are learned and used to better educate ones self. Studying literature and observing personal reactions to the literature can make one more aware of his or her own values. English skills are helpful in every area of life. Reading, writing, comprehension, analysis, and interpretation increase efficiency in multiple ways including communication, documentation in other areas of study, and reflection of personal values. I believe there is no area of study that English and communication skills do not influence. However, there exists a purpose for reading and writing outside of these immediate practical purposes; the written word can be used to enlighten, to persuade, to express emotion, or simply for enjoyment. In these forms the written word becomes an art form, and a way of reaching out to others through a personal experience between the writer and the reader. Reading is an excellent way to associate oneself with the great minds of history and peer into their own thoughts. Reading is surely one of the most effective ways one can expand oneself. An entire culture exists in the written word, documenting the collective thoughts of everyone who cared to share them with the world. Therefore, I believe that for one to truly be a part of human society, it is critical that one take part in the evolution and self-realization that is literature, even if only in the reading aspect. Writing, however, carries a grave importance, as literature simply would not exist in the accessible form it does without written word, and for that reason I believe all who can write should. One should take advantage of the great opportunity to be part of and contribute to the world and society in which he or she lives through writing. I see literature in the societal sense a collective struggle to understand and

make the best of the lives that we have all been given. Literature serves as a way to enrich our minds, and presents a way to improve the world not only through the beauty of its presence but through the ideas and tangible possibilities it possesses. I was taught to both see a work of literature as a way to understand the time it was written, and the people who produced it, and to find the parts of that work that spoke to me in my time and place. While I am skeptical about whether or not anyone can ever really understand a culture or a time prior to their own, I do know that many times literature and art provide insights that cold hard facts do not. Most of all I find that literature makes the differences more manageable, and highlights the similarities between people. I can read a Greek tragedy two thousand years later and agree with things that some older white man was saying because he was a human being, and I am a human being. Although it may sound trite, I have had reading experiences that taught me more about what it means to live in this world. I have met very intelligent people who do not read. But all of the interesting people I know read, whether or not they are particularly intelligent. Literature is an art full of passion and heart; it transcends the ages. Great literature hits on many different levels. Over the years authors have accomplished unfeasible tasks through the use of their words. Literature has prompted political and social change in societies and continues to do so to this day. It can be a battle cry for the proletariat to rise up and make a difference, and it can also provide personal counsel. Literature sets me free from the responsibilities of this world, and at the same time it ties me down to those same responsibilities. Some literature I read for an escape; to journey to a far away land and go on a grand adventure with creatures beyond my imagination. We read literature to discover and to learn about ideas and we write it to discover and to cultivate our own ideas. No lover-of-ideas can go without either reading or writing. For me, if I go too long without one or the other, I get this huge build up of confused and jumbled ideas that suddenly overcome me and I just have to write them out in some form philosophic prose, narrative, poetry, scribbled phrases, etc. That must be why literature can appear in a multitude of forms: All literature shares the common theme of the idea. Ideas explore, probe, inquire, and inspire. The reactions to such are all that become a part of the learning process. There is a great deal that literature can teach. Literature can teach to the individual and to all of society. It can teach us about the past and the present and even about the future. Subjects can be broad and far-reaching, but can also be specific. Literature teaches us about laughter and love, about remembering and forgetting. It can create emotion and warn us against our many human faults. It can attempt to disprove other ideas or attempt to find truth. I think we are all looking to find truth in some form or another. Oftentimes, the uncertainty of a specific meaning of a piece allows for its interpretation to be for the reader to decide. What is certain, however, is that there are things to be learned from literature that are specific to it, that cannot be attained through any other medium. To gather this knowledge and to experience its beauty all pertain to the importance of literature to me. I know that that sounds pretty corny, like something on a PBS commercial, but I feel that there are a vast amount of experiences and people the reader gets to encounter in any work of literature. What they contain that dime novels do not is a window into the things that make human beings tick, the methods behind our madness, so to speak. I go through life experiencing different situations and learning from them, but not always being able to put into words exactly what I have learned. I read literature because its function, as I define it, is to illuminate some aspect of the human condition. Not only is the uncovering of these truths significant in and of itself, but the revelation process also provides a common experience through which the reader can relate to every person who has discovered that same truth before him. One way that literature communicates the human condition to readers is that it brings the truths it contains to life. When I study a great work of literature, I not only gain insight into the universal truth about which the author has chosen to write, but I also, in my attempts to understand, can learn about the culture in which the author lived, the history surrounding the country of his origin, and the various intellectual, political, and artistic movements of the time. Thus the window to humanity that lies at the heart of all literature can act as a sort of connecting portal to the culture surrounding each individual author. Once someone has become more experienced in the ways of the world, or in the ways of literature, it falls upon that person to begin to light the way for future explorers. Some may write literary works of their own, using words to illuminate their views on the truth about humanity. Others may decide instead to act as teachers, helping prospective explorers learn to traverse the dense and sometimes bewildering forest of novels they will encounter along their journey. No

matter the manner in which people choose to serve, the task itself remains as timeless as the truths that humans have sought for centuries: As the great thinkers and authors of the past have marked out paths in the wilderness for we who have followed them, so we must serve as guides for those who will come after us. Great literature provides its readers with a window into various aspects of the human condition and a guide to the way we, as a species, relate to one another and to our surroundings. Literature gives us a mirror in which to examine our collective reflection as a people. It does not gloss over the pimples and blemishes of humanity, but exposes them quite openly. No concealer, no cover-up, only the truth. Literature is the reflecting pool into which every person that ever existed can look and see both his own face and the faces of all his fellow people. It enables each human to not only find the humanity within his own heart, but also to connect him to the generations of other people who have been doing so since the beginning of time.

Chapter 5 : Benefits of Reading | Teen Ink

Discovering Math in Literature. You can pull math concepts out of many interesting books. Use our suggestions below to help you find real-world application of math skills and broaden the educational value of reading in your classroom.

Chapter 6 : What Are Your Values? - Decision-Making Skills from blog.quintoapp.com

Unified communications comprises a broad set of technologies that are converging into new functionality. Companies that understand the differences and benefits of personal, workgroup and enterprise unified communications will discover those approaches that best suit their business needs.

Chapter 7 : How to Live With Purpose, Identify Your Values and Improve Your Leadership | HuffPost

Discovering Values Before you can discover the importance of values in shaping conclusions, you must have some understanding of what a value is.

Chapter 8 : Why Our Students Study Literature | Department of English

The value of your book depends on many things, so a professional appraisal is important--whether you are planning to sell the book(s) or continue collecting books of the same type. If you prefer to try to price your collection on your own, a number of notable books will give you an idea about the worth or value of your book collection.

Chapter 9 : Discovering the Business Value of Virtual Reality in the Enterprise

Discovering the literacy gap: A systematic review of reading and writing theories in research Additionally, children do not learn the value of reading, but rather.