

The Classical Scholar
Diane's "Must-Know" Checklists
For Mastery



Language Skills

- How to read (alphabet, phonetic method)
- How to spell (spelling rules)
- How to write (handwriting – print, cursive, and later typing)
- How to punctuate and capitalize
- How to use proper grammar (all 8 parts of speech)
- How to decipher unfamiliar vocabulary

Critical Thinking Skills

- How to classify, describe, compare, and contrast
- How to identify and complete sequences
- How to identify and interpret analogies
- How to solve problems (equations, word problems, puzzles)
- How to structure logical arguments (syllogism, fallacies)
- How to think inductively (particular to general)
- How to think deductively (general to particular)

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Critical Thinking Skills (continued)

- How to use the scientific method (including prediction)
- How to analyze literature
- How to research a topic

Communication Skills

- How to have conversations (face to face, telephone, letters)
- How to write a proper sentence and vary the structure (compound, complex, phrasing)
- How to write a correct paragraph, transitions, introduction, and conclusion
- How to add stylistic elements (dress ups, openers, decorations, triples)
- How to take notes (key word outline, stick & branch, annotation)
- How to write essays, reports, abstracts, research papers, and speeches
- How to footnote, write bibliographies, and edit
- How to develop a thesis statement and prove it with evidence
- How to give a speech (all 10 NCFCFA categories)
- How to listen well and interpret meaning