

1.5- Hour Webinar

Socratic Sparks: Using Pop Culture Artifacts to Teach Critical Thinking



Najia Nazir

Lecturer, Yanbu Industrial College, **Saudi Arabia**

In many classrooms, students can reproduce information but struggle to evaluate claims, question sources, and justify conclusions. This session offers a practical, classroom-ready approach to Socratic reasoning that works across primary, middle, and secondary levels, as well as teacher training contexts. Using modern artifacts such as memes, advertisements, screenshots, headlines, short videos, and “numbers” posts from both Pakistani and international popular culture, participants will learn how to run short Socratic spark activities that build critical thinking without turning lessons into debates. The webinar introduces a simple questioning ladder (clarify, probe reasons, test evidence, surface assumptions, explore alternatives, and examine implications) plus facilitation talk moves that keep dialogue safe and inclusive in mixed-ability classrooms. Participants will leave with adaptable templates, question stems, and a mini routine for weekly curriculum integration, along with strategies for managing silence, dominance, and high-emotion topics. The focus is on practical implementation: quick activities, low preparation, and immediate transfer to English, social studies, and STEM classrooms.

Ms. Najia Nazir is a lecturer at Yanbu Industrial College, where she has been teaching courses in business and technical communication and applied linguistics for over ten years. She formerly taught English language and literature to O- and A-level pupils for ten years. With her dual background in linguistics and literature, Najia's teaching philosophy is anchored in the pillars of inclusivity, learner autonomy, educational technology, and critical thinking. She is pursuing her Ph.D. in Technical Communication and Rhetoric at Texas Tech University, with a special interest in composition studies, intercultural communication, intersectional feminism, and the rhetoric of health and medicine.

Fee: PKR 800/	February 21, 2026	E-Certificate will be provided
	3:00 to 4:30pm (PKT)	Limited seats on first come, first served basis

Scan to register

