

Abstract

Previous research showed that traits/dispositions are related to critical thinking performance, but there was very few studies carried out in the Chinese context. This study investigated the relationship of Big Five and Critical Thinking Performance in Hong Kong. There were 80 participants who were local undergraduate students (52 males, 37 females) from The City University of Hong Kong. The 10-item scale of the Big Five was used which was adapted from the International Personality Item Pool, and Watson Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal was used to assess participants' critical thinking performance. The hypotheses were: openness, conscientiousness and extraversion were positively correlated with critical thinking performance, and agreeableness and neuroticism were negatively correlated with critical thinking performance. The results showed that openness was positively correlated critical thinking performance ($p < .01$) and neuroticism was negatively correlated with critical thinking performance ($p < .01$). However, the relationship of the other traits with critical thinking was non significant. Reasons for the results were discussed and further studies were suggested.