**Stick to the Point**

From: Becoming a Critic of Your Thinking by Dr. Linda Elder and Dr. Richard Paul  
http://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/becoming-a-critic-of-your-thinking/478

“Be on the lookout for fragmented thinking, thinking that leaps about with no logical connections.”

**Ask These Questions to Make Sure Thinking is Focused on What is Relevant**

- Am I focused on the main problem or task?
- How is this connected? How is that?
- Does my information directly relate to the problem or task?
- Where do I need to focus my attention?
- Are we being diverted to unrelated matters?
- Am I failing to consider relevant viewpoints?
- How is your point relevant to the issue we are addressing?
- What facts are actually going to help us answer the question? What considerations should be set aside?
- Does this truly bear on the question? How does it connect?