**The Eight Elements of Reasoning**

1. **Purpose – *goals, objectives, missions***
2. **Point of View – *frame of reference, perspective, orientation***
3. **Question at Issue – *problem to be solved, issue in question***
4. **Information – *data, facts, observations, experiences***
5. **Conclusions – *interpretations, inferences, solutions***
6. **Concepts – *theories, definitions, principles, models, axioms***
7. **Assumptions – *presuppositions, beliefs taken for granted***
8. **Implications and Consequences -- *likely or necessary outcomes***

**Also consider *alternatives*: What is missing? What else should we consider? What other perspectives could we adopt? What other conclusions could we draw?**

**The Standards of Critical Thinking**

