

<b>Elements of formal thought</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
Reasoning with contrary to fact propositions	If/then thinking. “If that were not the case, then...”	
Isolation and control of variables	“All things being equal...this is the relevant variable.” (scientific thinking)	
Systematic combination	Ability to consider all possible combinations.	
Thinking about thinking, metacognition	Reflection on, monitoring and management of thought	
Propositional thinking	Identifying relations between categories, multiple possibilities	
Flexible thought	Decontextualize. Consider a representation distinct from its specific context.	
Capacity to understand problems beyond immediate experience	Subordination of the real (concrete) to the possible (abstract/formal)	
Volitional thinking	Taking charge of own mental life	