

# The Concepts of Creativity

Your Guide: Jacob Cancelliere

# Part I: Introduction



- Take 5 Minutes
- Turn to a Person Near You
- Introduce Yourself
- Business Cards



- What is Creativity?
- Why do we care about Creativity?
- Our personality types and behaviors
- Types of Thinking
- Using some tools



# What is creativity to you?



# What is Creativity?



# Creativity is the ability to modify self-imposed constraints

- Ackoff & Vergara (1988)

# **Self-Imposed Constraints**

- How do you self-imposed constraints limit the people in your life?
  - As a parent?
  - A partner?
  - A teammate?
  - A boss?



### Let's Do Some Math

### What is creativity?



# is the production of original ideas that are valuable



# How can we look at things differently?

# "In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the experts, there are few."

- Shunryu Suzuki





















# What is Creativity?

• Creativity is an ability or skillset you can grow and improve!



# Why Do We Care About Creativity?

- Being more creative can help us:
  - Personally
  - Professionally
  - Institutionally
- Virtual work has limits and we need to be Creative

- Improve engagement in longer meetings
- Reduce meeting durations
- Team Building
- Have some fun

### **Creativity Supports**

- Invention
  - □Creating something new
- Innovation
  - □Increasing value
- Design



# Why do we care about Creativity?

• More than 70% of senior executives report that creativity & innovation is in their top three drivers for growth.

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# Why do we care about Creativity?

### **The Future of Jobs World Economic Forum**

### Top 10 Skills in 2015

- 1. Complex Problem Solving
- 2. Coordinating with Others
- 3. People Management
- 4. Critical Thinking
- 5. Negotiation
- 6. Quality Control
- 7. Service Orientation
- 8. Judgment and Decision Making
- 9. Active Listening
- 10. Creativity

### Top 10 Skills in 2020

- 1. Complex Problem Solving
- 2. Critical Thinking
- 3. Creativity
- 4. People Management
- 5. Coordinating with Others
- 6. Emotional Intelligence
- 7. Judgment and Decision Making
- 8. Service Orientations
- 9. Negotiation
- 10. Cognitive Flexibility

# Convergent vs. Divergent Thinking



### Creativity Concepts



# Reduce Bad Habits – Current Meetings





## Reduce Bad Habits – Future Meetings



# What is Divergent Thinking

 The secret to creating new ideas is to separate your divergent thinking from your convergent thinking. This means generating lots and lots of options before you evaluate them.

### **Defer Judgement**

Deferring judgment isn't the same as having no judgment. It just says, "hold off for a while". Avoid judging ideas as either bad or good in the divergentthinking phase.

**Combine and Build – Make Connections** Use one idea as a springboard for another. Build, combine, and improve ideas.

### **Seek Wild Ideas**

Stretch to create wild ideas. While these may not work directly, getting way outside the box allows the space to discover extraordinary ideas.

### **Go For Quantity**

Take the time necessary and use the tools in this guide to generate a long list of potential options.

# Divergent Thinking



• Where should Rego U be next year?

### **Group Exercise Tools:**

- Stick'em up Brainstorming 5min
- Brain Writing 5min
- Forced Connection 5min



# Convergent Thinking

- At certain points in the creative process, thinking and focus needs to shift. To select the best of our divergent options, determine their potential value. In the **convergent thinking** process, choice is deliberate and conscious. Criteria are purposefully applied as we screen, select, evaluate, and refine the options, all the while knowing that raw ideas still need development.
- Use the guidelines that follow when it's time to make decisions about the ideas generated by divergent thinking.

### **Be Deliberate**

Allow decision-making the time and respect it requires. Avoid snap decisions or harsh judgments. Give every option a fair chance.

### **Check Your Objectives**

Verify choices against your objectives in each step. This is a reality check – are the choices on track?

### **Improve Your Ideas**

Not all ideas are workable solutions. Even promising ideas must be honed and strengthened. Take the time to improve your ideas.

### **Be Affirmative**

Even in convergence, it's important to first consider what's good about an idea and judge for the purpose of improving, rather than eliminating, ideas.

### **Consider Novelty**

Do not dismiss novel or original ideas. Consider ways to tailor, rework, or tame.

# Convergent Thinking

• Which Idea is the best?

### **Selection:**

Dot Voting Evaluation Matrix or Pairwise

\* The last 3<sup>rd</sup> rule



# **Convergent Thinking**

Dot Voting



Potential Program Elemente Walking / Histog / Xico

\* The last 3<sup>rd</sup> rule

Active Status Open in Excel

1. Please rank the advice below in order from 1-10. 1= the most valuable advice when working from home. Add any new recommendations in the text space in question 2.

Create a visual work space, W.

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10 Turn on the camera - actually ...



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2. Other advice you would like to share on creating a productive home/virtual work environment:

### • PairWise

Vacation Ideas	Cruise	Italy	Disney	Paris	Winnipeg	Chicago	Delaware	Cancun	Hawaii	Camping in Alaska	SCORE
Cruise		1	0	1	1	1	1	C	0 0	1	. 6
Italy	0		1	0	1	1	1	1	. 1	1	. 7
Disney	1	. 0		1	1	1	1	1	. 1	1	. 8
Paris											0
Winnipeg											0
Chicago											0
Delaware											0
Cancun											0
Hawaii											0
Camping in Alaska											0

\* The last 3<sup>rd</sup> rule





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