

SELF-ACCESS MODULE 5: “CREATIVITY”

CONTENTS

Creativity is defined in very different ways, one definition says: Being creative enables you to take in account different aspect and views. The consequence is a better understanding of the situation and more effective solutions of a problem. Creativity keeps you in move and improves the quality of any products you work on. Creativity is not an assessment, given only to some individuals. Much more there is creative potential in every human being, which can be developed or neglected, trained or ignored. Investing in your own creative and lateral thinking will open new horizons and increase your quality of life.

RESOURCES

Readings:

- *Creative thinking*, <http://www.parnell-group.eu/resources/Creative%20Thinking.pdf>
- *Lateral Thinking*, http://www.marilenabeltramini.it/progetti0708/beltramini_la_mezia/DeBono_Rep_Chapman.pdf
- *Creativity and Creative Thinking*, <http://www.brainstorming.co.uk/tutorials/creativethinking.html>
- *Creativity and Innovation - Best practices from EU programmes*, http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/valorisation/docs/bp-euprogrammes_en.pdf
- *Creativity in Schools in Europe: a survey of Teachers*, http://ftp.jrc.es/EURdoc/JRC55645_Creativity%20Survey%20Brochure.pdf
- *Innovation and Creativity in Education and Training in the EU Member States: Fostering Creative Learning and Supporting Innovative Teaching*, http://ftp.jrc.es/EURdoc/JRC52374_TN.pdf

Watching:

For your inspiration!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdIBJ-q-4JE>

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xcvhqh_towards-a-creative-europe-what-role_news

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xth34acSVc>

Some useful links:

- The 2009 European Year of Creativity and Innovation, <http://create2009.europa.eu>
- European Ambassadors for Creativity and Innovation, http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/year09/manifesto_en.pdf

AIMS

- To develop the ability, to go “out of the box” and look at your matters from different perspectives.
- To become aware of the variety of options you can choose by thinking creatively.
- To encourage self-reflection about creativity and move forward in its development

TIME ALLOCATED / DURATION

180 minutes

ACTIVITY

1. Questions for Reflection

1. What does creativity mean to you personally / in your work? (Consider also your past and future)
2. Being in touch with other people/ friends / colleagues/ adult learners - what difference does it make to be creative and think lateral?

2. Exercise – Learning how to act creatively!

1. Anything you do - The more creative it is done, the more interesting and witty people find it. Take your time to think about your matters and challenge yourself. You can use the following questions and support:

- Speculate: “What if ... ?”
- Lateral thinking: Think from the opposite position. Buzzword: "out of the box". What do you NOT want to do?
- Overcome limits by searching for one more perspective. For example you have two facts:
1. Knowledge is important. 2. Ability is important. – Third perspective might be: Willingness is important!
- Looking back and forward: „How did I do it before?” “How could I do it in future?”
- Abstraction of the essence of a problem to make the handling flexible.
- Try to mix solutions and thoughts.
- "Tabula rasa" Restart from zero. Think big.
- Visualize: Use drawing or pictogram. What did I forget? Where do we want to go?
- Inspiration: How do other people/ countries deal? Discussion and exchange of ideas in a team, brainstorming.
- Change: Can the problem itself be changed instead of finding a solution?

2. Challenge yourself!

Use the attached sheets (blank) and draw as many things as come to your mind, including the circles/ crosses. Think about sharing this exercise with a friend to get inspired and communicate on creativity.

3. Make a resolution!

Reflect on your lifestyle and the role of creativity and lateral thinking

1. How it is and 2. How you want it to be. Make a resolution to challenge yourself. You can be as creative as you want ☺

Text of the: “2 Challenge yourself!”

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