Think*i*bility

Thinkers' Prescriptions for Improving Your Thinking about Thinking, Creativity, Innovation and Design

Gijs van Beeck Calkoen and Åsa Jomård

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The exploring of the Six Hats Thinking Framework

has been carried out in parallel tracks, which sometimes may cross over,

and it has been made possible by contributions from members of the Edward de Bono Society

in the form of knowledge, facts, feelings, enthusiasm, and overall inspiration.

Thanks for the generous contributions.

Introduction to Thinkability

This eBook explores the use of the Six Hats framework as an aid to creativity and will be of interest to anyone involved in creative thinking, problem-solving, innovation and design. The Six Hats thinking framework was designed by Edward de Bono in 1985. The book provides a wide range of resources that can be used to increase understanding of the thinking framework. Drawing on the latest research and available online resources, knowledge related to thinking within the Six Hats Framework is drawn together and explored in detail. What does it mean to use the Six Hats framework? What is the value of using the Six Hats method? How can the framework be used to promote thinking relevant to a particular profession or specific goal?

Thinking is a profound part of being human. Yet, the thinking process remains largely unexplored. Thinking skills are often taken for granted and most of the time we hardly notice the thinking process at all. We often feel that we understand our thinking processes until someone asks us how we solved a particular problem. How did we reach that decision? How did we get that idea? On the rare occasions that we do look closely at the thinking process, it is often in

response to having our ideas challenged. Thinking is often regarded as an ability; the product of an open mind and a function of upbringing and education - particularly scientific education - acquired only by a select few; those having an inherited intelligence or capacity for learning. But the focus is slowly shifting and thinking as a process is increasingly being discussed in a more constructive way. However, exactly how thinking skills can be used and improved is rarely explored, and traditional ways of solving problems are still dominant in everyday life.

An awareness of the strengths and weaknesses with a framework can help us to maximise the potential outcome of a project or thinking session. Evaluating and exploring from different angles is important regardless of which framework we use. Looking at different ways to approach our thinking can help us generate new ideas and explore possibilities that may not have been obvious before. Many of us want to make positive changes in our lives, but often can't see how. We may want to explore new ways of finding creative solutions to problems but we find it hard to ignore negative thoughts about previous attempts where we failed to turn our ideas into reality. Whatever your endeavour is, this eBook offers a path to help you reach your goal. Our aim is to inspire creative thinking by the use of the Six Hats and to promote the framework as an aid to thinking.

Six Thinking Hats

Six Thinking Hats is a thinking tool that is used to shift the focus and direction of our thinking, so as to reach a more rounded understanding of a problem or situation. It forces us to change our habitual thinking style. The approach is different in many ways from using an argumentative framework where we argue for or against a proposition. In this eBook, application of the Six Hats metod is explored for problem-solving and creative situations. We will also explore it for applications in conflict resolution, original design, construction, writing essays, exploring mathematical theories, evaluation, decision making, and action planning.

Organisation of the Book

Part 1

The first part consists of a short introduction to the Six Hats framework and an overview of ways in which the Six Hats are currently used. There are links to instructive videos where the Six Hats are explained, and mind maps are used to summarise the concepts and to deepen understanding.

Part 2, 3 and 4

In part 2,3, and 4, the use of the Six Hats method as a practical supporting thinking tools is discussed from a user's perspective. Part 2 is about two complementary thinking modes: logical-positive and logical-negative. Part 3 is about Creative Thinking and its complement: Managing the Thinking Process. Part 4 concerns Information thinking and Emotional or Intuitive Thinking. The goal is to create a deeper understanding of the basic nature of each Hat. Underlying assumptions behind each Hat are explored and the aim is to develop an understanding of how this influences the thinking process. Biases in each specific thinking mode is discussed and explored by referring to recent theories in the areas of creativity, biology, psychology, and neuroscience.

Part 5

In part five, the focus is on exploring the use of the Six Hats framework by different groups of users. Design, innovation, and problem solving are explored alongside suggested ways to extend the use of the Hats.

Thinking in Parallel

The Six Thinking Hats Framework can be a tool for individual use. It can inspires us to explore a subject from different angles, one-by-one, in a systematic and disciplined way. However, the framework is also a constructive alternative to "adversarial thinking" or debate because of its concept of "Parallel Thinking". The idea behind parallel thinking is that it allows a group of people to simultaneously explore a problem, from one perspective at a time. It is a collaborative approach and the aim of this approach is to look for what can be rather than for what is. The goal is not to prove a point, but rather to identify and explore a number of different viewpoints and ideas without judgement or criticisms.

Part 1 of this eBook is offered *free* and we hope that it will inspire you to read and learn more. The other four parts are available from our website. We hope they give you *Happy Thinkibility Reading and Listening*.

PART 1

Parallel Thinking and The Six Thinking Hats

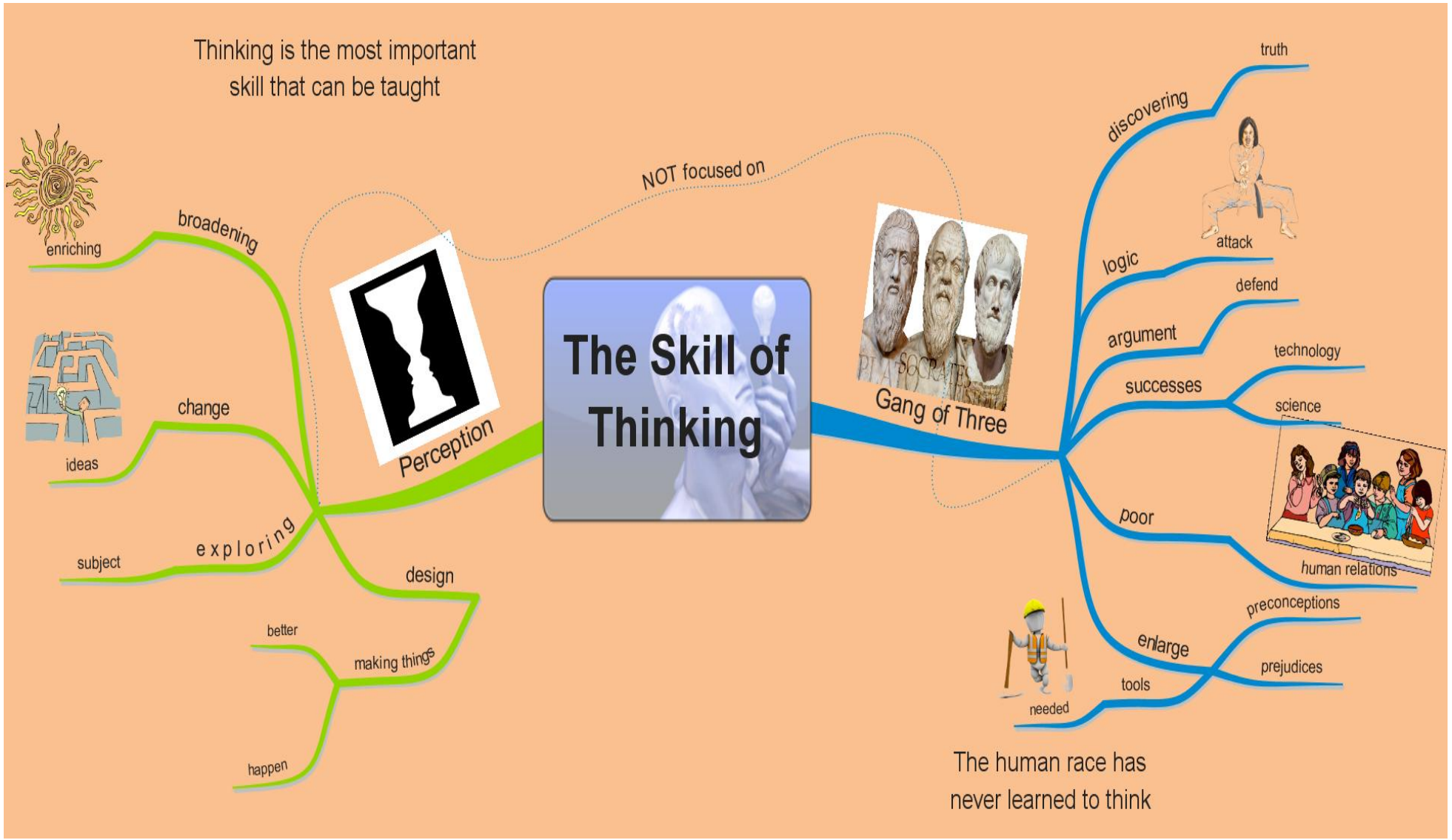
Overview

Introduction

The Skill of Thinking

Welcome to the Six Hats Thinking Framework. This section offers an introduction to the Six Hats framework and describes the idea behind the use of a thinking tool. In the following videos, Edward de Bono explains the purpose of the Hats and the value of the thinking framework. A mind map to each video is provided to summarise the main points. We recommend you to peruse the mind maps *before* and *after* watching the videos to increase and deepen your understanding.

Now peruse the fist mind map.



Listen to Edward de Bono when he talks about "*Thinking*". You will learn about the most common approach to thinking in use today – tracing back as far as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. Learn about why this approach is an inadequate and less successful way of thinking in many situations. A complementary approach to thinking is discussed and explained – perception based. You will hear about the importance of using thinking to design new solutions and improve situations. Edward de Bono says that thinking should lead to actions that change and improve conditions. He suggests that we need new tools to change our perception. These tools help us to create new ideas, and to deal with preconceptions and prejudices that often influence our thinking in a negative way. Learn more and watch the video The Skill of Thinking.

Operating (or Traditional) versus Perception Style

The traditional Western thinking framework has developed mainly from ideas found in ancient Greek philosophy. In this framework, an 'operating' style of thinking is practised by approaching ideas from a logical point of view and by using arguments to oppose or defend viewpoints. *Individual* thinking skills are stressed, and often an *individual* acts alone in the thinking process. The overall aim is to find *the* truth.

Thinking based upon argument serves a purpose in a wide range of situations (politics and law, for example) but other frameworks can be used, and an approach based upon an exploration of perceptions can be useful in many situations to minimise prejudices and preconceptions. In this approach, the goal is to arrive at new solutions by challenging and broadening the existing way of thinking. Within this framework, working relationship with other people is considered as a fruitful way to enhance thinking.

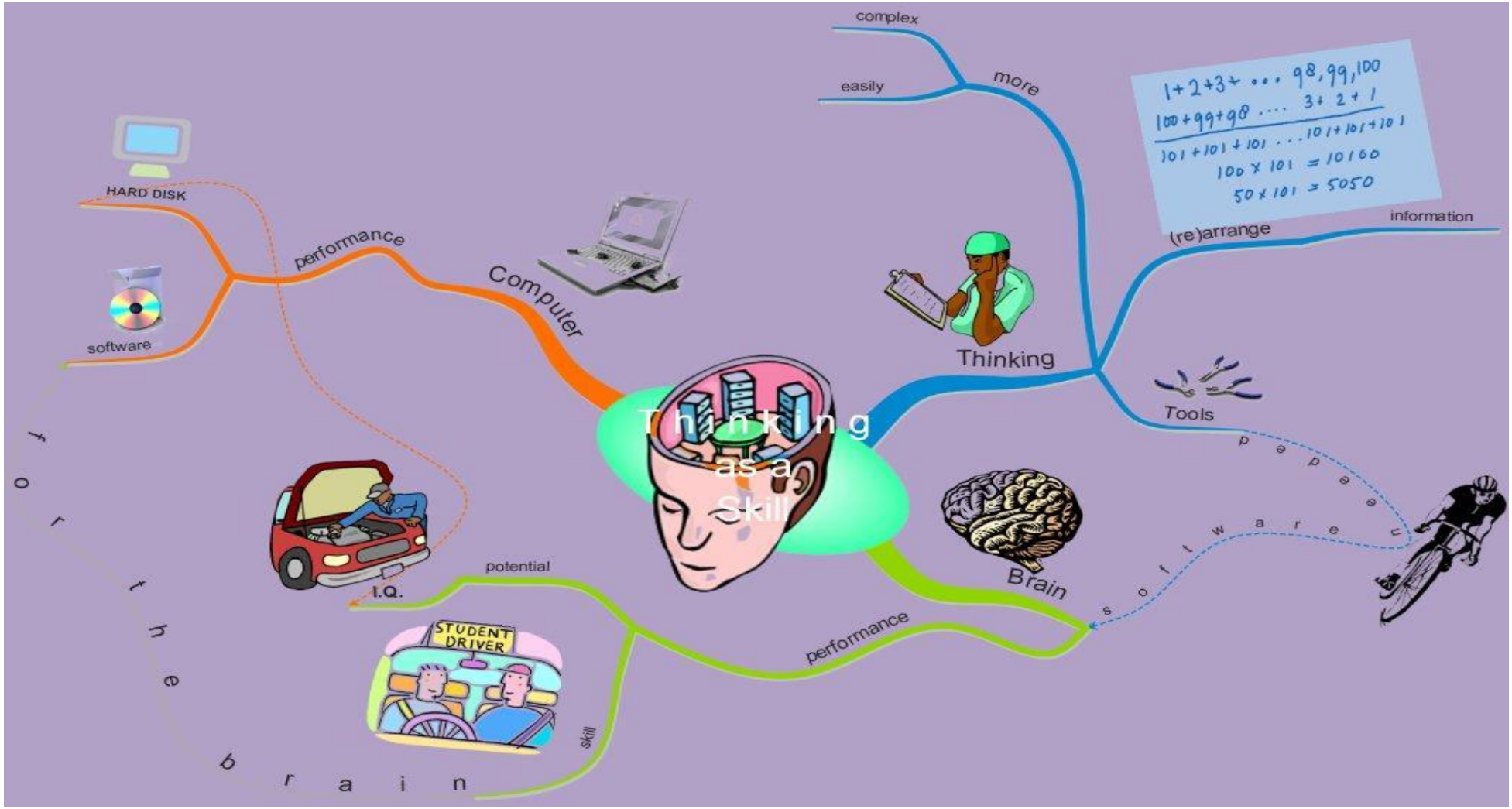
Science and technology are often described as a search for *the* truth. You discover the true character of the world or a problem by looking for structure and relationships between facts. Your reasoning needs to "make sense" and be logical. Logical thinking is sequential and your arrange ideas are arranged in a chain-like progression. Argumentative *method* is used in this framework, in so far as each link in the chain is tested and challenged in an attempt to defend or point out weaknesses with an idea. The goal is to uncover *the* truth. In the alternative framework, or perception style, you can explore and investigate a subject by using tools that helps to focus and direct your attention. This approach allows you to explore a subject or problem from several different viewpoints.

The Six Hats in Detail

In this section, you can watch a series of six videos to find out about the Six Thinking Hats. In the first two parts, you will learn about thinking. In the third part, the White, Red, Black, and Yellow Hats are discussed. In the following part, you can find out about the Green and Blue Hats. The last two parts provide you with practical ideas about how to use the thinking framework.

Thinking as a Skill

Peruse the mind map and explore how thinking could be described as a skil**l.**



To start with, listen to Edward de Bono describing the purpose of a thinking tool. By structuring and rearranging materials, we can use our brainpower more effectively, just as a bicycle enables us to use our muscle energy more effectively. You will learn about the basic ideas behind the Six Thinking Hats. Thinking is described as the software of the brain, which is different from intelligence. Intelligence is the potential of the brain, while thinking is the skill with which it is used. The Six Hats framework is one type of software that can be used to make sure that your brain's potential is used as effectively as possible. We encourage you to watch the video Thinking as a Skill.

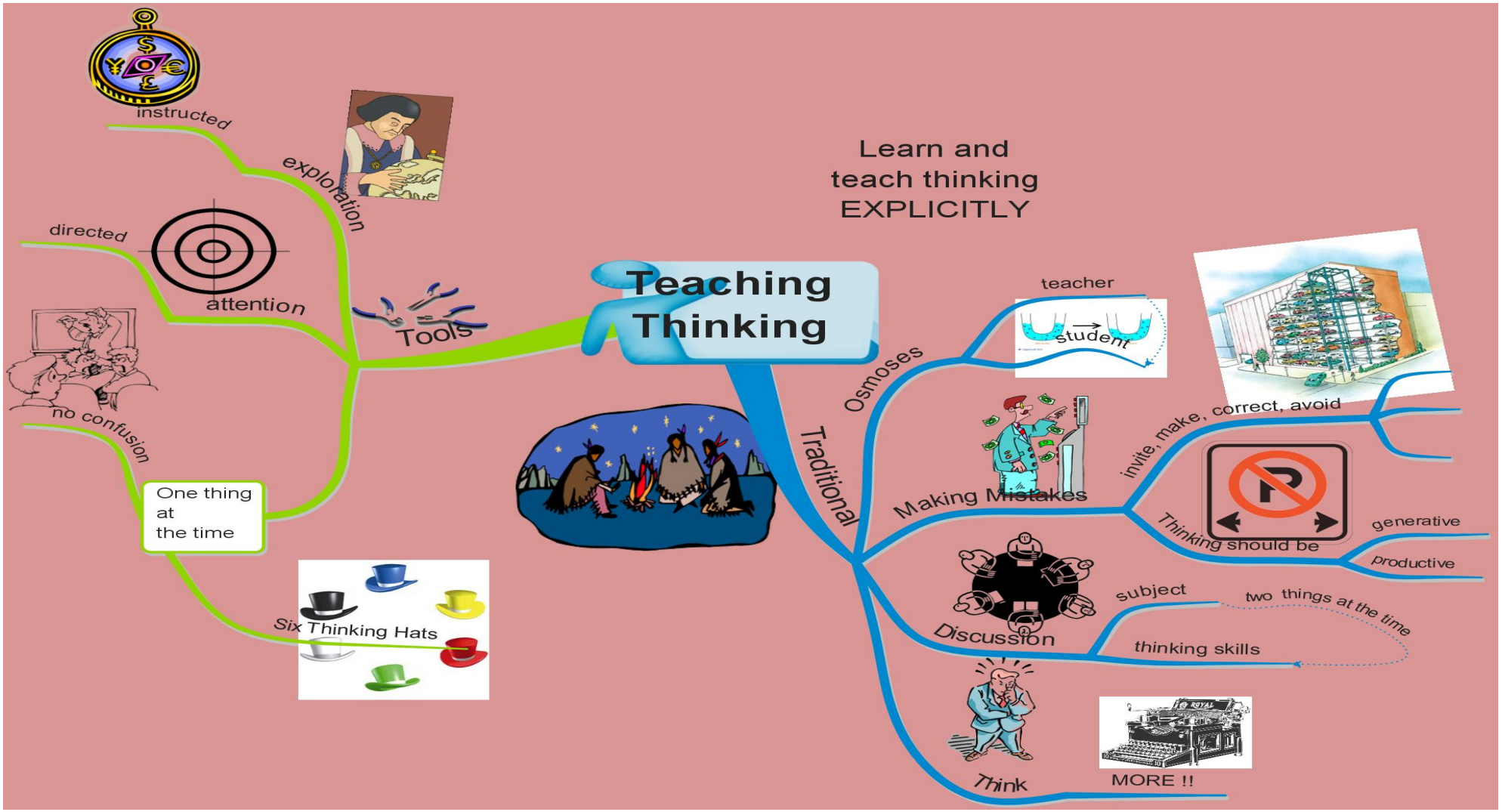
Exploring Ideas in the Video: Thinking as a Skill

Thinking is mental activity. Yet, thought and action are often inseparable and some people prefer to look upon them as two sides of the same coin. Deliberate action starts with a deliberate thought; we think about something and then we do it. Thinking skills are mental enablers that we use to examine and explore the world. Although some people are described as having an innate capacity for thinking, in this eBook we regard thinking skills as practical processes that can be learned. The term skills could also be used to refer to having a logical mind or good memory. That is *not* what we are referring to here.

By viewing thinking as a skill rather than an inherited ability, we open up the door for teaching thinking. If our thinking were determined entirely by our genes, then attempts to improve it would have no significant effect. Looking at thinking as a learned skill means that almost anyone can improve his or her thinking skills regardless of age or inherited abilities. Life prospects can be improved, and it is possible to transform tendencies and habits, such as eating disorders and antisocial habits. An important consequence of regarding thinking as a skill is that a need for effective thinking techniques and tools emerges.

Teaching Thinking

Read the mind map and explore the images.



In this section, De Bono explains the philosophy behind the use of the Six Thinking Hats framework as a thinking tool, and discusses the effectiveness of three methods for teaching thinking.

He explains why it is not efficient to rely on a method in which you learn to think by having a gifted teacher or coach implicitly transferring his or her thinking strategies. He also describes an approach based on the correction of thinking mistakes. This approach leads to a cautious rather than productive thinking. Finally, he points to a lack of tools or devices for use when trying to work towards a solution to any given problem.

You will gain insight into an explicit method for teaching thinking, where your thinking skills can be enhanced by using an appropriate tool. The tool can be used in different practice situations and you will gain an understanding of the type of thinking skills that are linked to that specific tool. Your practice sessions will allow you to use the same tool in a new and unfamiliar situations and your thinking skills becomes portable as a result. Please, watch the video Teaching Thinking.

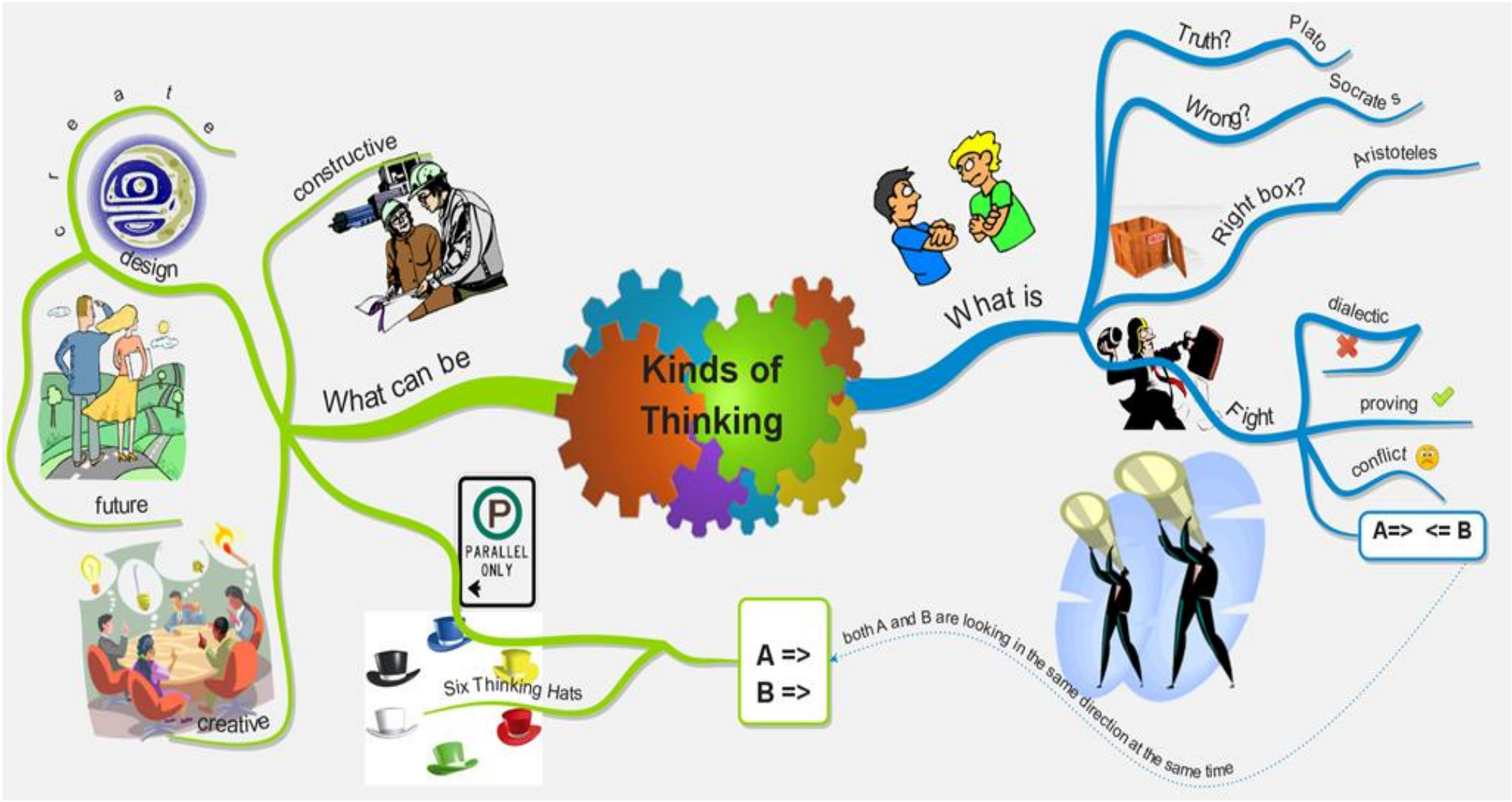
Exploring Ideas in the Video: Improve Your Thinking Skills

Everything we do changes our brain, in some way, and taking part in 'thinking' activities naturally leads to changes in your thinking skills. Over time, we become more proficient in the particular type of thinking that we practise. Yet, we want to be able to use the most effective thinking strategy in a wide range of situations. To do this, we need to be able to transfer thinking skills, but often we are not aware of our thinking skills or the thinking techniques we are using We often do not even have a vocabulary to allow us to discuss thinking.

Explicit teaching of thinking skills is a way to ensure that you can transfer your skills. Using a thinking framework like the Six Hats helps you to shift your view and redirect your thoughts. The Six Hats framework helps you direct your perceptions in a controlled way, and it allows you to shift focus. By directing your focus towards one aspect at a time, you minimise the risks of confusion and avoid pre-judging what is important. Shifting your attention means that you get a more rounded view of a problem, idea, or issue.

Types of Thinking

Look at the images and explore the mind map to find out about different types of thinking.



There are several different types of thinking such as vertical, creative and lateral. To appreciate what you can achieve by using different kinds of thinking you need to understand the purpose for which they were designed. When you watch the video in this section you will learn about the foundation of traditional Western thinking and the situations where this kind of thinking is best suited.

Edward de Bono explains the difference between a thinking that searches for an underlying truth, and thinking that searches for what can be achieved. The former approach to thinking is suitable in a stable world where it is important to find the truth. The latter is desirable in a changing world where you are looking for constructive solutions, design, and creative ideas. You will hear about argument, parallel thinking, and the White, Red, Black and Yellow Hats (the Green and Blue Hats are in part 4). Watch the video Kinds of Thinking.

Exploring Ideas in the Video: Parallel Thinking

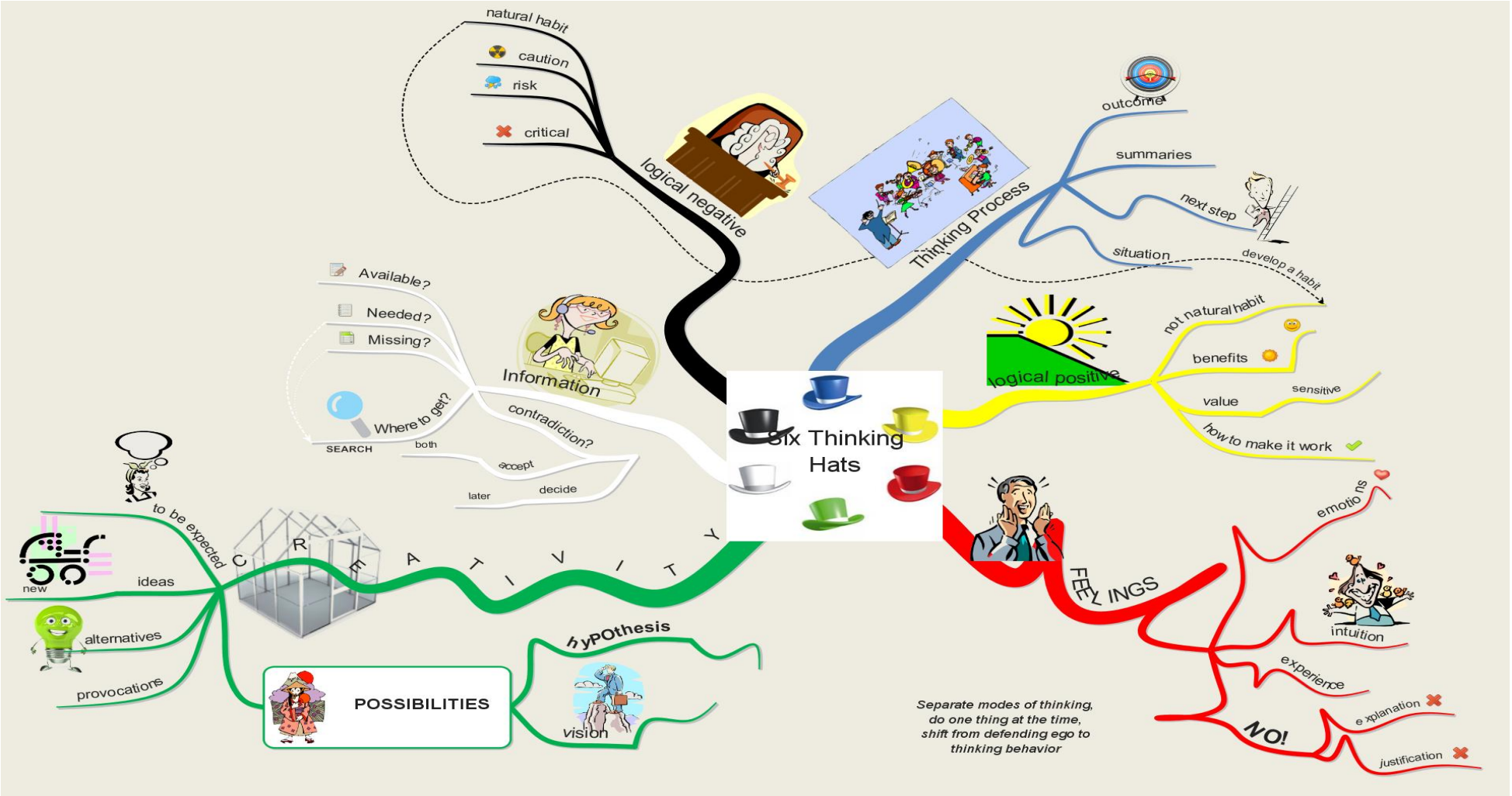
When you are using argument, you are looking at a problem from one particular perspective. You are putting forward your view of the situation and your opponent is suggesting his or her view, which may be a different or contrary view. The purpose is to search for the truth and one side may be closer to the truth. Yet, the result of an argument can often be a synthesis of the two viewpoints. In parallel thinking, a problem is approached by taking a number of different

perspectives, one at a time, with all members of the session adopting a similar perspective at any given time. By collectively moving from one perspective to another, many different aspects of the problem can be explored without the need for a 'winning' or 'losing' argument. In the Six Hats Thinking Framework, each metaphorical Hats represents a different perspective, and the 'wearers' of the hat think in character with that perspective.

A change of Hat means a change of focus. Everyone changes the focus at the same time and looks at a new side of the problem. The idea is that the thinking should be without criticism or argument, while an active search for new ideas or aspects of the situation is carried out. Thus, in contrast to traditional thinking the reasoning *does not* have to be defended, rather the focus is on exploring the subject from different angles. In a changing world, what was regarded as a fact yesterday might not be true tomorrow. To deal with change, we need design thinking and new ideas.

The Six Thinking Hats

Read the mind map and learn about the Six Thinking Hats.



Watch this part and learn about the importance of exploring possibilities. Possibilities allow scientists to question existing evidence and to form testable hypotheses. In technology, exploring possibilities results in visions that may be fulfilled by designing and making new tools and constructing new machines. You will learn about the role that possibilities play for Green Hat thinking. A description of the Blue Hat thinking is also given by Edward de Bono. You will also come to understand how thinking can be improved by focusing on one aspect at a time. Often our thinking is characterized by an attempt to give attention to every aspect, perspective and nuance at the same time.

Exploring Ideas in the Video: The Six Thinking Hats

Below is a short description of the roles of the Six Thinking Hats.

◇

White Hat – Use this Hat to look at the information you have, and examine what you can learn from the *available* information. Discuss the kind of information you *need* to explore the subject in the best possible manner. Look for gaps

in your knowledge and *missing* information. Suggest where you can start to *search* for additional information; needed but not available information.

Red Hat – Put forward your feelings, emotions, and intuition regarding the subject. By focusing on Red Hat thinking, you share hopes, fears, likes, dislikes, loves, and hates. There is no need for justification or explanation; instead a *sharing* of emotion, hunches, and intuitions is taken place.

Black Hat – Consider the situation or idea in a cautious manner and access the risks. Spot points where the idea may have *weaknesses*. Statements made under this Hat need to be *logical*.

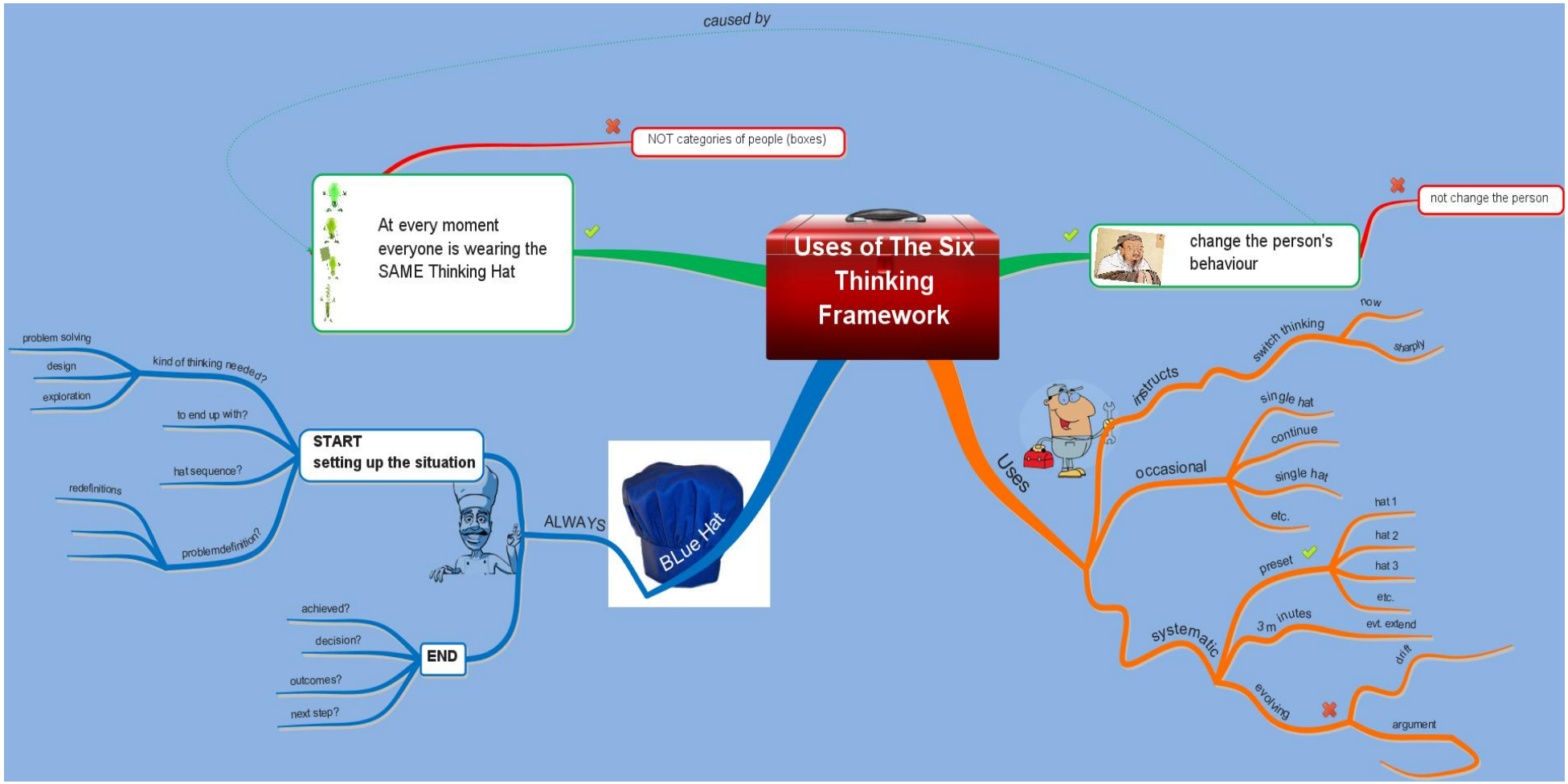
Yellow Hat – Search for the *positive* aspects. Focus on looking for benefits, and explore how the idea might work. Look at the *value* of the idea. The *logical* reasons for the support of the ideas or suggestions need to be put forward.

Green Hat – Suggest *new ideas*, *possibilities*, and *alternatives*. Be brave, express new concepts and develop alternatives to solutions, interpretations, actions, choices etc.

Blue Hat – Look at the *process* of thinking and define the situation. Discuss decisions, outcomes, and make *summaries* of the thinking so far. Make *decisions* about the next step and how to achieve the outcomes.

Ways to Use the Six Thinking Hats

Look at the mind map and discover ways the Six Hats can be used.



Get ideas about how to use the Six Hats by watching the video in this section. The importance of everyone wearing the same Hat at the same time is stressed. The idea is to explore a subject in parallel, which means that everyone is using the same Hat and taking a similar perspective on the problem at any one time. Discover how the Six Hats can lead to thinking that goes straight to change in a behaviour. Learn about two different approaches to using the framework, namely the occasional and the systematic approach. When you apply the occasional approach, you use a single Hat to ask for a particular kind of thinking. A systematic approach means that you decide upon a set sequence before you start, or you decide which thinking Hat is necessary after you have finished with one particular Hat. We recommend that you watch the video Uses of the Six Thinking Hats.

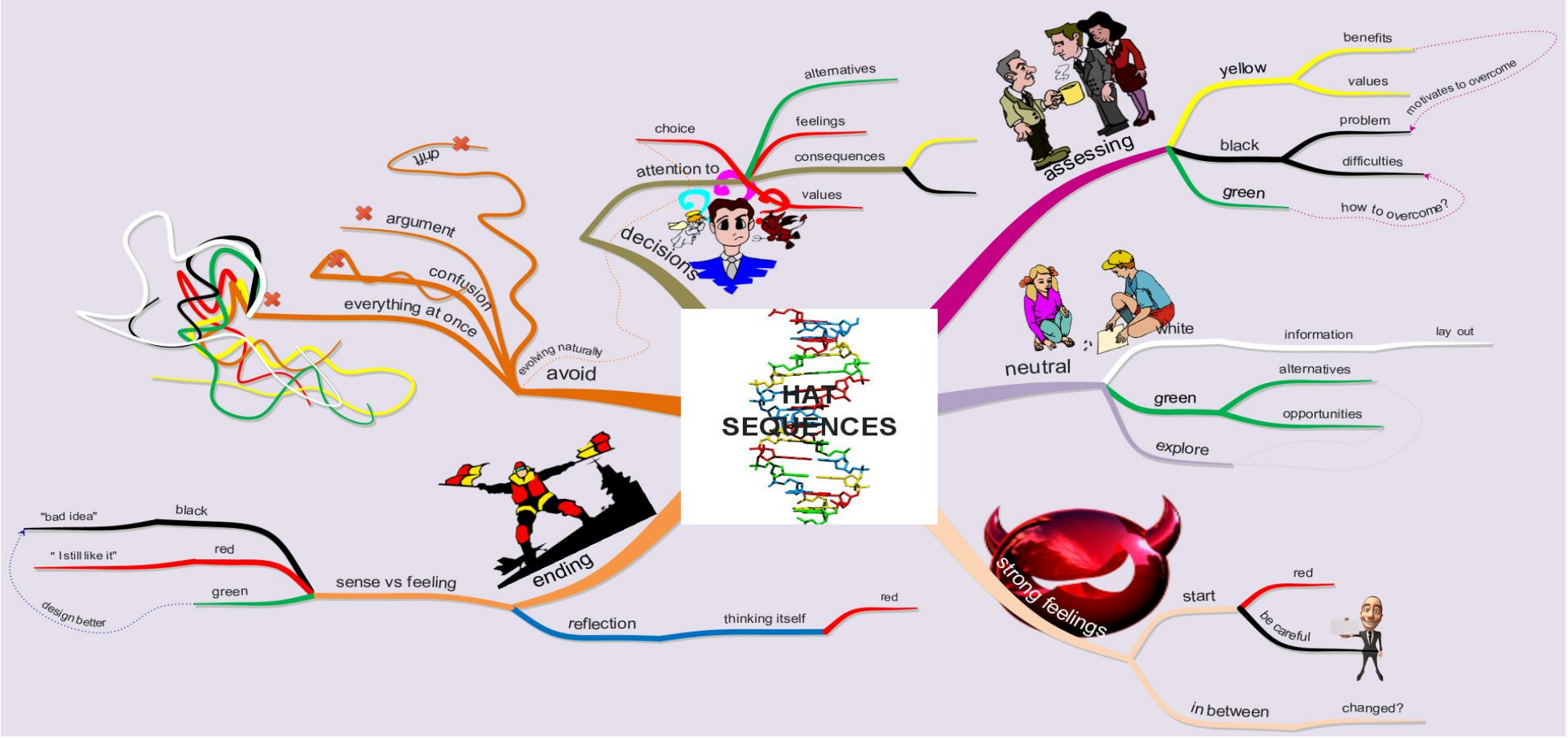
Exploring the Ideas in the Video: Blue Hat Thinking

To start and finish a meeting, the Blue Hat is often used. This Hat is used to manage the thinking process. When you metaphoically wear the Blue Hat, you set the agenda for the meeting, or thinking session. Towards the end of the meeting, you look at what you have achieved, and make plans for the next session. In some cases, a decision needs to be made, and during a Six Hat thinking session the final decision may evolve as a natural consequence of the thinking

process. If not, you can either examine the results, or schedule a new meeting, where you can explore in more detail some of the aspects of the thinking that has taken place.

Sequences of the Thinking Hats

Get inspiration and ideas about ways to use the Thinking Hats by exploring the mind map.



Finally, in this last part you will learn how to use the Hats in successive steps depending upon the specific situation. Practical tips about how to use different Hat sequences are provided. In theory, you can choose whatever sequence of Hats that you like, but there are certain advantages in using specific sequences depending upon the task or the overall situation.

Edward de Bono says feelings and emotions related to a particular subject can be aired first by using the Red Hat. However, in a situation where the leader of the session is strongly expressing his or her feelings, it may be difficult for other participants to ignore this. As a result, the leader's expressed feeling may influence the whole thinking session. The use of some White Hat thinking at first could place things in more "neutral" perspective.

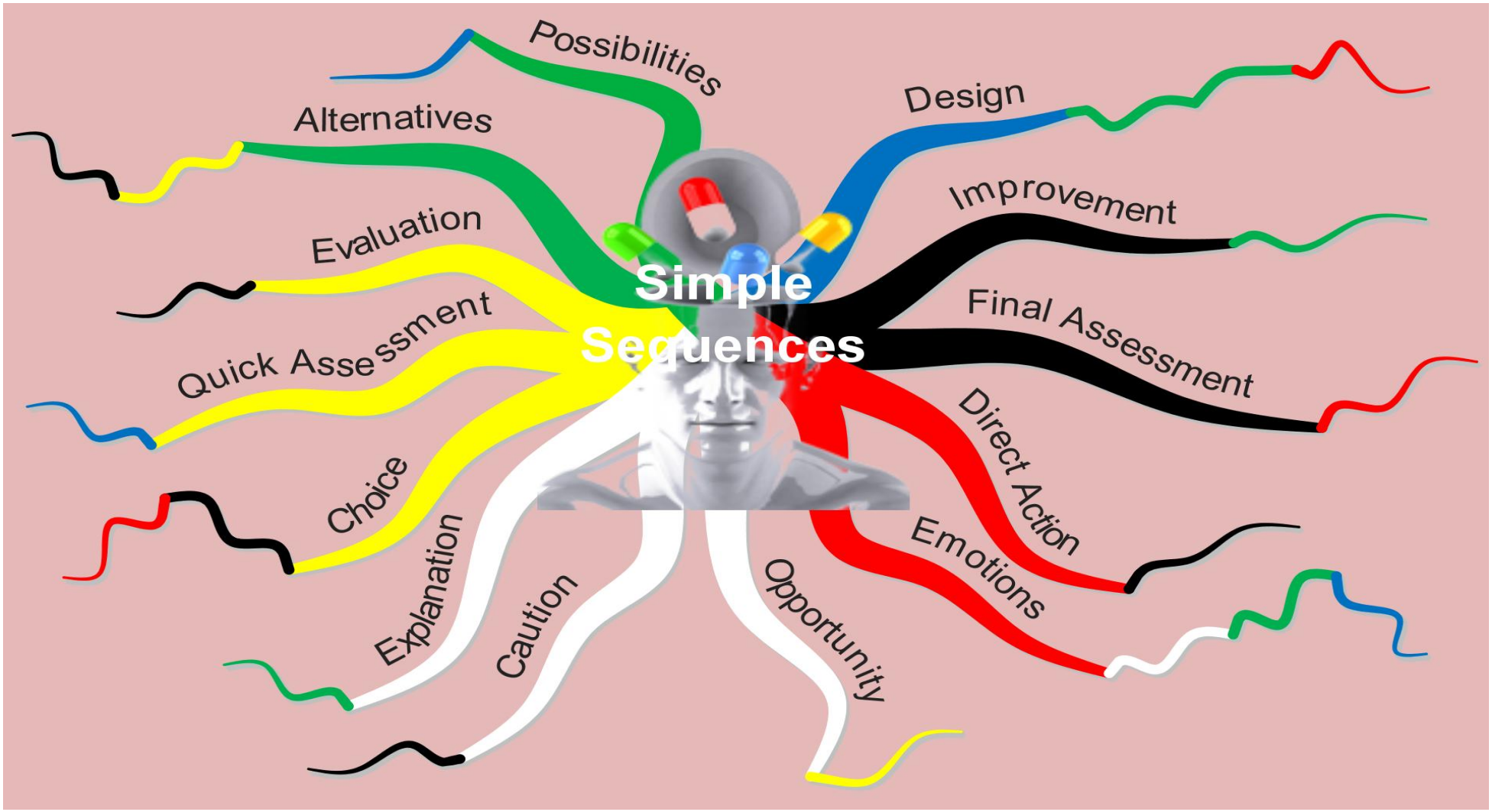
A Six Hat Thinking session can include one, two, or three Hats from the six different Hats that suit your purpose. You can also use longer sequences where you return to different Hats. It is advisable only to focus the attention for a limited time. If there is a need, the time spent on one of the metaphorical Hats can always be increased. For tips and inspiration, watch the video Some Sequences of the Thinking Hats.

Exploring Ideas in the Video

Often a Six Hat Thinking session may end with a decision being taken. Although, the Blue Hat is often used to conclude a session, it is possible to continue to explore the suggested decision by using the Black Hat and explore possible dangers. The Red Thinking Hat can be used to let members express their feeling about the decision that has been taken. The Six Hat Thinking Framework offers you a wide range of ways to explore and approach a thinking session. Yet, it is vital to understand how the thinking under each metaphorical Hat can influence and change the character of a thinking session. Our thinking is influenced by previous experiences, perceptions, and the direction taken by the current thinking session.

Sequences in Detail

Explore this mind map to receive tips about different Thinking Hat sequences.



On the web page below you will find practical information about how to use the Six Hats. You can read about how to prepare for a Six Hat Thinking session and learn about how to apply different sequences for different focus areas. Depending upon the subject and the people taking part in the session, you use different Hat sequences. The overall aim with the Six Thinking Hats is to use constructive and creative thinking with the explicit goal to find practical solutions.

See Edward de Bono's Six Thinking Hats – Outlining the Basics

Story

Finally, in this section you can read a story about Magic Hats. The inspiration for this story comes from the Six Thinking Hats, and this story shows possible consequences of using the framework. It is a charming story and we warmly recommend it as an introduction to the thinking framework for children young and old.

The Magic Hats

Written by Magdalena Santin, translated from the Spanish by Dr Lucase Gonzalez Santa Cruz

A long time ago, in a beautiful village with small straw houses, something happened which I'll tell you about.

About a hundred people lived in that place. There was a bread maker, a locksmith, several miners, a teacher and many more men with different jobs. Each of them lived with his family - his wife, his children ... There were younger, middle aged and older children.

Some of these children liked playing near a waterfall just outside the village. Of course, their parents didn't like the idea at all because they thought this sort of fun was dangerous.

Near, very near that waterfall, there were some little bushes. And right beside the bushes there were some small mushrooms. And beneath these mushrooms, lived Adao.

Adao was a nice small gnome, who had a twin brother named Gabo.

Adao was short and stout; so was Gabo. Adao had red hair and freckles; so did Gabo. Adao used a hat; so did Gabo. And both made their own clothes. Yes, with a small sewing machine that their mother had given them as a present just when they told her of their idea of living on their own, far from their father's home.

Adao and Gabo were identical. So much so that anyone would be confused as to who was who. Well, they were identical on the outside, not on the inside. They had a very different heart. They behaved differently. They even behaved in almost opposite ways.

Adao, for instance, was always thinking about how to help other people. Gabo, in turn, lived to have fun, and was capable of doing anything that would make him laugh, even if that behaviour got others into trouble.

One night, Adao had gone to bed early, and Gabo thought of a plan to have some fun. He went to their small "thread and needle workshop", where he and his brother had that sewing machine that their mother had given them. And once there, he started making more and more hats. He made one for each person in the village. But he only used six different colours: some hats were green as plants, others white as paper; still others, red like fire; he also made some blue as the sky, others yellow as the sun and, to end with, others black as the night.

Apparently these were hats like any others, but the interesting thing about them was that they were invisible to the human eye.

Only the gnomes, the fairies, the wizards, the witches and other fantasy beings could see them. But that was not all: what made them more special is that, using any of these hats, something very strange happened to anyone who was wearing it. . . And it was this happening that made Gabo enjoy himself so much.

Once he finished making all those hats and while everyone in the village was sleeping, Gabo paid a visit to each house, and placed a hat on each inhabitant's head. Each and every one of them was wearing a hat: the parents and the children, the grannies and also the babies. But as these hats were invisible, no one noticed.

The next morning, when the villagers woke up, something very strange happened. Fermín, an adventurous boy, all of a sudden didn't want to come out of his home. When his friends came to invite him to play, he replied: "I'm not going out; it's very dangerous, I can fall in the river ..." Fermin's mother didn't understand what happened to her son as he usually was too daring and he was frequently in trouble. The usual thing was for him to invite other children to go to the dangerous waterfall. . .

The woman's attention turned to something else because right at that moment her neighbour, Doña Beatriz, came crying bitterly because she had burnt a cake that she was cooking for her husband. And she said: "I'm good for nothing; it'll be better if I'm left in the woods for bears to come and eat me".

"My neighbour crying?", thought Fermin's mother. "She who never worries about anything?" Beatriz was such a balanced person, it even looked, sometimes, as if she didn't have feelings. She was never seen in anguish, or sad, or happy either. It looked as if she lived with a motto: "Everything is as it should be". But today, what was happening to her? It looked as if her feelings of sadness were pouring out and overwhelming her.

That scene was also interrupted because an explosion was heard and Fermin, his mother, and Doña Beatriz ran to the place where they thought the noise had come from. Of course they found other villagers there. Many had come to that place, shocked, trying to find out what had happened. There they found Arturo.

Arturo was known to all as a quiet, shy and lonely boy. He didn't seem to take an interest in anything that was happening around him. But today there was no trace of that personality. All of a sudden he had felt a curiosity to learn about the world and had started experimenting up to the point of causing an explosion. Arturo was covered in ashes, to such an extent that some didn't recognise him at first. One thing was certain: he was seen to have an urge to go on investigating more and more ... He didn't look worried about the mess he had created.

Very near him was Rodrigo, his brother, a usually distracted and forgetful boy. Some said Rodrigo could even forget his own name. But not that day. There he was, near his brother, uttering the names of each and every one of the inhabitants of the village, and their birthdays, and then publicising the favourite dish of each one and also their favourite colour.

Nobody could explain what was happening. It was simply obvious that something was happening. If they had paid a little more attention, maybe they would have discovered Gabo, behind the bushes, trying not to show he was laughing.

Adao immediately knew what was happening. He could see the hats because they were not invisible to him. And he guessed at once that his brother was involved in the trouble.

Adao knew very well how to help people. If they only knew they were wearing hats! Then they would know they could take them off. But Adao knew it was not easy for people to notice this, as people seldom see themselves.
Adao thought he should act but didn't want to be seen by humans, so he decided to wait until nighttime. He stayed around in order to avoid further problems.

Close to six o'clock in the afternoon, some miners were heard returning home, after a long day at work in the mine. There were Fermin's father and Doña Beatriz's husband. They came along singing happily and chatting about how wonderful it was to work in the mine ... Their wives couldn't believe what they were hearing as they had always complained about how dangerous and unpleasant it was to work there.

Late at night, when everyone was sleeping, Adao went into each of the houses in the village. Whispering in each person's ear, he said to each: "You are wearing a hat - you must realise that". The next morning, when they woke up, before saying "Good morning", they were all repeating "you're wearing a hat - you must realise that". Even the babies - well, they couldn't speak, but they moved their little heads and half-sung a tune.

Several people joined together in the central square of the village and, instead of saluting each other, they said at the same time: "you're wearing a hat - you must realise that". Just then, they put their hands on their heads and, at that very instant, the hats took shape and colour.

People noticed each of the hats had something written on them: on the white hats the word "Information" was written. Rodrigo and many other villagers were wearing white hats. Arturo and other people were wearing a green hat with the word "Creativity" on it. The black hats said "Problems" and, for sure, Fermin had a hat of this colour. Fermin's mother had a blue hat with the name "Observer" on it. Her neighbour and other people were wearing a hat on which you could read "Emotion" and which was red. The miners and others had a yellow hat with the word "Optimistic" written on the front.

Fermin's mother suggested they could all swap hats among themselves, but she decided to keep the blue one, in order to observe the others. Straight away it became obvious that people changed their behaviour as if controlled by the word on each hat.

After making these changes several more times, they all decided on something important which changed their lives forever.

Right there and then, they made a huge coloured hat of clay. Then, with a hammer and a chisel, they wrote something on a stone, which they left at t foot of such a monumental sculpture.

On the stone, you could read the following:
- If you want to understand your neighbour, you should wear his hat.
- And if you want to solve conflicts, you should control the hats.

Since that day the villagers lived together happily, understanding each other and with the certainty that any situation can be understood if you look at from different points of view.

The End

We invite you to continue the journey in Part 2, 3,4 and 5.

We hope they will give you hours of

Happy Thinkibility Reading and Listening.

Resources and Tips

In the Wikipedia under the subject Six Thinking Hats you find some examples of statements which could be made under each Hat.

A lovely card game to develop fluidity and speed in the Six Thinking modes can be downloaded from the site from The Bono for Schools.

At Practise Thinking you can practice and show off your thinking ability. You can also ask a crowd of people to do some thinking for you.

Six Hats Graphics are downloadable from the de Bono Thinking Database.

Watch the video "How to make a Mind map" with the inventor Tony Buzan.

The Dreyfus model of skill acquisition provides you with an interesting view into how we acquire skills. It proposes that a student passes through five distinct stages: novice, advanced beginner, competent, proficient, and expert.

The original books by de Bono are (1985) are *Six Thinking Hats: An Essential Approach to Business Management*. Little, Brown, & Company.ISBN 0316177911 (hardback) and *Parallel thinking: from Socratic thinking to de Bono thinking*, Viking 1994 ISBN 0-670-85126-4

Blog

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http://sparkingthinkibility.blogspot.co.uk/

About Us

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Gijs van Beeck Calkoen is facilitator and Coach at Practice for Bold Thinking. He is the author of several publications including the manual *Design of Innovative Government Policy*. At the Netherlands Defence College he was responsible for the business management training of higher officers, and he was a Research and Development manager. He studied Electronics and Business Administration and his thesis concerned the relation between strategy and organisational development.