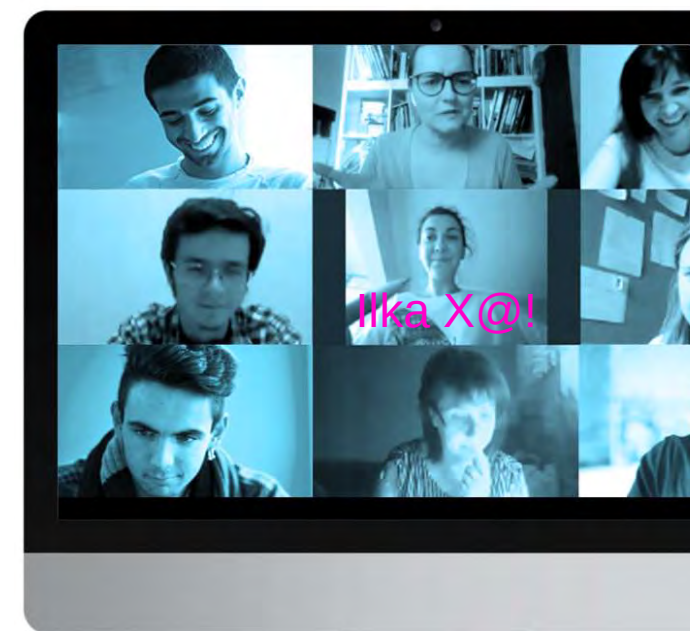


Creative Decision Making

Theme:
Employment Matters

Before we start, please make sure...

- ✓ **your name on Zoom is clear (use Latin letters)**
- ✓ **your camera is on and mic is off (unmute when needed)**
- ✓ **you are in a quiet area that helps you focus**
- ✓ **you have a notebook or a note app ready to take notes**



Zoom features

Check your audio and video settings

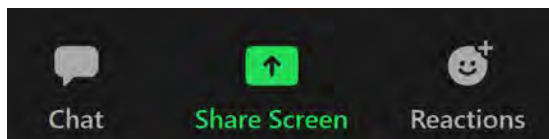


Use Latin letters for your name

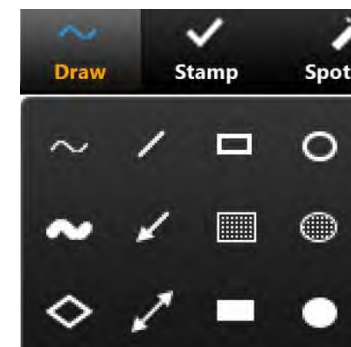


Ask questions in the Chat or use Reactions

Share Screen when the teacher asks



Use Annotate when a screen is shared



Use Save to make screenshots

Welcome to English Online



How does it work?

You need to complete all three parts to get the most out of English Online.

Prepare before class



Live class
+
After-class speaking session
(optional)



Practise after class

After-class speaking session

Stay back after class for 5 or 10 minutes to talk to your classmates from around the world.

This extra speaking practice will help you...

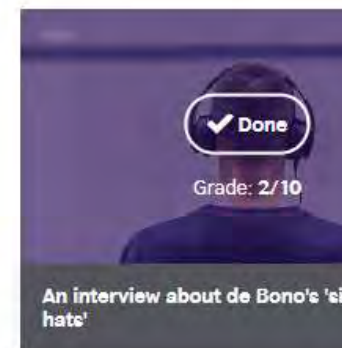
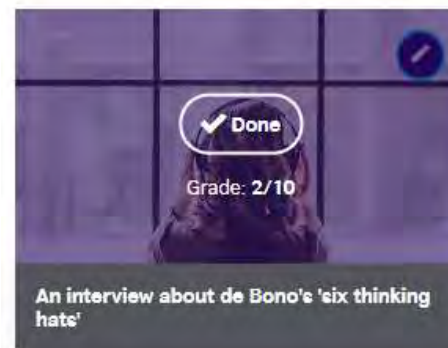
- improve your conversation skills
- practise using language learnt in class
- support and help your fellow students
- practise using English in a natural context
- become a part of a global learning community



Pre-lesson activities

- Listening about the “Six Thinking Hats”
- Phrases to discuss roles
- Verb + noun collocations

Prepare



Practise



Lesson objective

What do you expect to learn by the end of this class?

Lesson objectives

In this **live** part of the lesson, you will take part in a discussion, exploring different viewpoints through discussing a given situation using the 'six hats' technique and evaluate its success.

Highlighted Skills

Speaking (in live class) & Listening (before and after class)

Language Focus

- Verb collocations around topic of decision-making.
- Idiomatic phrases with 'think'.

Lead-in

If you have a difficult decision to make, either at work or at home, how do you go about it?

Do you ever do any of the following? Discuss with your group.

- **make a list of pros and cons**
- **toss a coin**
- **think it over for a long time before deciding**
- **sleep on it**
- **ask for other people's opinions**
- **ignore opinions that aren't the same as yours**
- **make a snap decision and go with it**
- **go with your gut feeling / intuition**
- **read tarot cards**
- **brainstorm all the alternatives**
- **draw a mind map of the issue**
- **look at your horoscope**
- **avoid the decision and see what happens**
- **worry and worry and worry**
- **research online**
- **pray/meditate**

Lead-in (alternative)



What is the common message between all three pictures?

Have you ever considered this point in your decision making process?

Input

Six Thinking Hats

You listened to an audio about the Six Thinking Hats before class. Can you remember what each hat refers to?

1 Look at data, analyse trends, extrapolate.



2 Be cautious, defensive, highlight weak points.



3 Be in control of the process, facilitate.



4 Use creativity, imagination.



5 Use intuition, emotion.



6 Use positive thinking, adopt an optimistic



Input

Six Thinking Hats

Which of the six roles do you think you naturally tend to take on? Tell your group.

Do you think it's always a good idea to see things from different perspectives? Why?



Language Focus

Match the idioms with their meanings.

- 1 put your thinking cap on
- 2 think something through
- 3 think it over
- 4 can't think straight
- 5 think twice
- 6 think big
- 7 think outside/out of the box
- 8 think for yourself
- 9 think on your feet
- 10 think ahead

- a be ambitious
- b confused, not able to think about something clearly
- c consider an idea carefully before you make a decision
- d consider an idea or a plan and its possible consequences
- e make up your own mind about something
- f pause and think again before you jump into action
- g plan for the future
- h start thinking seriously about how to solve a problem
- i think freely, not limited by traditional expectations
- j think quickly and react spontaneously

Language Focus

Match the idioms with their meanings.

1 put your thinking cap on

2 think something through

3 think it over

4 can't think straight

5 think twice

6 think big

7 think outside/out of the box

8 think for yourself

9 think on your feet

10 think ahead

a ▶ be ambitious

b ▶ confused, not able to think about something clearly

c ▶ consider an idea carefully before you make a decision

d ▶ consider an idea or a plan and its possible consequences

e ▶ make up your own mind about something

f ▶ pause and think again before you jump into action

g ▶ plan for the future

h ▶ start thinking seriously about how to solve a problem

i ▶ think freely, not limited by traditional expectations

j ▶ think quickly and react spontaneously

Language Focus

Idiomatic expressions using *think*

Tell your group about times (at work/home/school/college etc) when you:

- couldn't think straight
- had to think out of the box
- had to justify your opinions
- failed to think something through
- met with resistance to your ideas
- thought big
- had to think on your feet
- drew the wrong conclusion



Task



Task

to make a creative business decision

Your design consultancy company is about to make a significant creative business decision.

The company owns and occupies a beautiful nineteenth century building with lots of character and a lovely garden.

You need to decide whether you should move premises or stay where you are based on the following facts.

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Adv
Creative Decision M

Task

to make a creative business decision

- **The building is charming and appreciated by staff and a certain type of client.**
- **The location isn't ideal. It's in an old part of the city, a fair distance from the nearest underground station and parking in the narrow streets is a problem for staff and visitors.**
- **Such an old building is becoming increasingly expensive to maintain and keep up to date in terms of IT systems and health and safety.**
- **Your client base is currently stable but you're finding it difficult to attract new business.**
- **Moving is a big expense at this time.**

Task

to make a creative business decision

Issues to consider:

- the economy (up? down?)
- the property market / potential locations
- the current building (rent? sell? alternatives?)
- your staff
- your clients
- savings/expenses
- your company (image? marketing?)
- the future (growth? consolidation? risk?)
- other ...



Task

to make a creative business decision

Each of you will wear one hat and consider the decision by thinking from the hat's perspective.



Discuss together whether you should move premises or stay where you are.



Feedback

Good use of target language: idioms using “think”

Good engagement with the topics

Remember to use articles: a/an, the

How can you make more progress?

Complete the Progress activities online.



What's next?

New

Employment matters

6 lessons

In this theme you'll study a range of topics to help you get ahead at work. You'll learn about teamworking and creativity in the workplace, as well as negotiation techniques and workplaces of the future.



After-class speaking session

You can talk about any topic that interests you!

Use these questions as a guide, if needed.

- Are you good at making decisions? Why or why not?
 - Have you ever made a decision then changed your mind? If yes, explain the situation.
 - Have you ever asked for the opinion of someone else before making a decision? If yes, explain the situation.
 - Do you think people make bad decisions because of peer pressure? Why or why not?
 - How do you make difficult choices?
- For help, contact:
support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org

Dos

- ✓ Treat everyone with respect
- ✓ Keep your camera on and on mute
- ✓ Let others share ideas too
- ✓ Listen to everyone
- ✓ Click 'Leave' if you cannot attend

Don'ts

- ✗ Don't take pictures or recordings
- ✗ Don't share personal details
- ✗ Don't let your children be onscreen

What do you think?

Do you like the platform?

What did you think of the activities?

What further information do you need?

For more information, write to

support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org



Teacher's Notes

This slide deck was made by Dina ElSebaie with added slides by Karolina Witkowska.