



# Creativity

By: Dr. Anupam Sharma  
Assistant Professor  
School of Humanities & Social Sciences  
Thapar Institute of Engineering &  
Technology

“Creativity is the real root of the present human crisis”.

That is why creativity is one of the fundamental human values.

- Freedom & creativity are very closely related.
- Freedom is the basic condition for the creativity.
- Freedom of thought and freedom of action are necessary for creative thinking.

Everyone has some creative capacity and creative potential in some field.

## Types of Creativity

- Intellectual Creativity
- Artistic Creativity
- Useful or Practical Creativity

# Intellectual Creativity

- Intellectual means involving a person's ability to think and to understand ideas and information.

# Intellectual Creativity

- Formulation of hypothesis, theories, ideas and understandings and continuously improving and refining them is the Intellectual Creativity
- Development of language (for expressing views communicating ideas) is one of the biggest creative achievement of humankind.

# Artistic Creativity

- It is more a matter of heart, as intellectual creativity is more of mind
- Artistic Creativity is expressed through poetry, drama and other forms of literature and in different art forms: painting, music and different decorative arts.
- All these are creative ways of expressing inner human emotions, feelings and experiences.

# Useful Creativity

- This creativity has become essential for industrial and business organizations.
- Every engineering design is a creative synthesis of knowledge, tools and materials from diverse areas of science and technology.
- Innovation and creativity has become the key to success in the modern competitive environment.
- Creative organizations find innovative ways of organizing work.
- Eg: Robot

- Most of the successful and happy persons are creative.
- They are able to find innovative solutions to life's challenges and problems.
- Similarly the quality of collective social life depends on our ability to find creative solutions to the common social problems of adjustment, growth, change and development.

# Five steps for creative process

- Problem sensing and problem identification
- Exploration and preparation
- Incubation
- Flash of insight
- Verification and application

# Problem sensing and problem identification

- Creative persons are keen observers of the environment around them.
- They are likely to find problem areas & find the need for change
- Creative people actively grasp the opportunities so that they can utilize their talents and resources.
- Creative people not only sense the problems of the society but find acceptable solutions for the same.
- For this they fully understand the problem and the general parameters within which a solution is to be found are specified.

# Exploration and preparation

- All the relevant information about the problem is collected; from the past experiences,
- From published literature;
- From knowledgeable persons.
- Tries to find out how similar problems are solved in other fields and by other persons or organizations.
- This stage involves exploration, distinction and possible frustration as well.

# Incubation

- After having all the information and ideas one tries to push the problem from the conscious mind to the subconscious mind.
- After that one sleep over that problem and allows time for Incubation.
- So that allowing the subconscious mind to think over the problem.
- And arrange the required facts into new patterns.

# Flash of insight

- After having all the knowledge about the what problem is, gathered the necessary data or information required.
- Suddenly right solution for the problem flashes in the mind, in most unexpected way.
- On a Sunday afternoon walk the idea of attaching a separate condenser to the steam engine came to James Watt in such a flash, that idea made possible the industrial revolution.
- Eg: Newton's Theory of gravitation

## Verification and application

- All mind flashes are not always useful as practical solutions.
- The suggested idea has to be carefully worked out in all its details.
- It needs analysis, calculations, computer simulations and lab experiments.