



Question 6. Why is divergent thinking important in creative thinking process?

Answer: Divergent thinking[^] is important in creative thinking process. It's abilities facilitate generation of a variety of ideas which may not seem to be related.

Fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration are the abilities of divergent thinking.

1. Fluency : produces many ideas for a given task or a problem. The more ideas a person produces, the higher his fluency ability.
2. Flexibility: indicates variety in thinking. It may be thinking of different uses of an object, or different interpretation of a picture, story or different ways of solving a problem
3. Originality : ability to produce ideas that are rare or unusual by seeing new relationship, combining old ideas with new ones, looking at things from different prospective.
4. Elaboration : ability that enables a person to go into details and workout implications of new ideas.
 - Divergent thinking ability facilitate generations of a variety of ideas which may not seem to be related.
 - Divergent thinking is essential in generating a wide range of ideas. Convergent thinking is important to identify the most useful or appropriate idea.

Question 7. What are the various barriers to creative thinking?

Answer: Barriers to creative thinking can be characterized as habitual, perceptual, motivational, emotional and cultural.

1. The tendency to be overpowered by habits can be detrimental to creative expression as it becomes difficult to think in novel ways.
 2. Motivational and emotional barriers show that creativity is more than just a cognitive process. Lack of motivation, fear of failure, fear of rejection, poor self concept and negativism may hamper creative thinking.
 3. Cultural barriers are related to excessive adherence to tradition, expectations, conformity, pressures and stereo types. It arises due to the fear of being different, mediocrity, social pressure, over-dependence, personal security and tendency to maintain the things as it is.
- Strategies to overcome the barriers of creative thinking.

There are certain attitudes, dispositions, and skills, which facilitate creative thinking.

Here are some strategies to help you enhance your creative thinking abilities and skills:

- Cultivate the habit of wider reading, exposure to a variety of information, and develop the art of asking questions, pondering over the mysteries of situations and objects.
- Try deliberately to look for multiple angles of a task and situation to increase flexibility in your thinking.
- Obsbom's Brainstorming technique can be used to increase fluency and flexibility of ideas to open-ended situations. This helps in increasing the fluency of ideas and piling up

alternatives. Brainstorming can be practiced by playing brainstorming games with family members and friends keeping its principles in mind.

- Originality can be developed by practicing fluency, flexibility, and habit of associative thinking, exploring linkages, and fusing distinct or remote ideas.
- Indulgence in activities, which require use of imagination and original thinking rather than routine work according to the interest and hobbies.
- Generate a number of possible ideas or solutions, then select the best from among them.
- Think of what solutions someone else may offer for the problems.
- Give your ideas the chance to incubate. Allowing time for incubation between production of ideas and the stage of evaluation of ideas may bring in the 'Aha!' experience.
- Sometimes ideas cluster like branches of a tree. It is useful to diagram your thinking so that you can follow each possible branch to its completion.
- Resist the temptation for immediate reward and success and cope with the frustration and failure. Encourage self-evaluation.
- Develop independent thinking in making judgments.
- Visualize cause and consequence and think ahead, predicating things that have never happened, like, suppose the time starts moving backwards, what would happen? If we had no zero?, etc.
- Be self-confident and positive.

Question 8. How can creative thinking be enhanced ?

Answer: Strategies to enhance memory:

1. Originality: Originality can be developed by practicing fluency, flexibility, habit of associative thinking, exploring linkages, and fusing distinct or remote idea.
2. Use of Imagination: Engaging more frequently in activities which require use of imagination and original thinking rather than routine work according to interest and hobbies.
3. Not to accept initial ideas: Never accepting the first ideas or solution. Many ideas die because we reject them thinking that the idea might be a silly idea i.e. we have to first generate a number of possible ideas or solutions, then select the best from among them.
4. Getting feedback: Getting a feedback on the solutions we decide one from others who are less personally involved in the task.
5. Chance to Incubate : Giving ideas the chance to incubate. Allowing time for incubation between production of ideas and the stage of evaluation of ideas, may bring in the 'Aha!' experience.
6. Diagram thinking: Sometimes ideas cluster like branches of a tree. It is useful to diagram our thinking so that we can follow each possible branch to its completion.
7. Developing independent thinking: Developing independent thinking in making judgements, figuring out things without any help or resources.
8. Self confident : To be self-confident and positive. Never undermine to your creative potential to experience the joy of your creation.

Question 9. Does thinking take place without language ? Discuss.

Answer:

- Thinking is a silent speech
- It cannot take place without language.
- Benjamin Lee Whorf was of the view that language

determines the contents of thought. This view is known as linguistic relativity hypothesis. In its strong version, this hypothesis holds what and how individuals can possibly think is determined by the language and linguistic categories they use (linguistic determinism).

- Experimental evidence, maintains that it is possible to have the same level or quality of thoughts in all languages depending upon the availability of linguistic categories and structures.
- Some thoughts may be easier in one language compared to another.

Question 10. How is language acquired in human beings?

Answer: To achieve linguistic competence, children must master the four sub-systems or language :

- Phonology - the ability to understand and produce speech sounds
- Semantics - the ability to understand words and the different combinations of words
- Grammar - the ability to understand the rules by which words are arranged into sentences and the rules by which words can indicate tense and gender
- Pragmatics - the ability to understand the rules of effective communication such as turn-taking, initiating and ending conversations and so on.

There are two contrasting views on how language is acquired. Some suggest that language acquisition is primarily biologically determined. This is typical nativity position in nature-nurture debate. Other position is the environmentalist position which views learning as the basis of language acquisition.

Language development for behaviourists like B.F. Skinner follow the learning principles such as association, imitation and reinforcement. They explain it in terms of operant conditioning.

Regional differences in pronunciation and phrasing illustrate how different patterns are reinforced in different areas.

- The nativist view supported by Noam Chomsky argues that human being's extra ordinary capacity to learn and use language is based on certain innate mechanisms.
- Chomsky suggested that children are born with powerful language acquisition, device, LAD, which represents a knowledge of universal grammar.
- Children throughout the world seem to have a critical period that is from infancy to puberty where learning must occur if it is to occur successfully for learning language. Most psychologists accept that both nature and nurture are important in language acquisition.

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