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# Finding Creative Ways Around Problems

How to Find Solutions to Problems

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# INTRODUCTION



## Discussing and Suggesting Solutions

At some point in their life, everybody is asked to find a solution to a problem. This might be a friend asking for advice, a domestic issue you need to deal with, or something that is work related. Coming up with a solution to a problem is a difficult skill however, and this lesson will focus on solutions in the work place.

START

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# VOCABULARY

Lets check whether you know each following word.



**Ratio** (noun) The quantitative relationship between two things.

**Idea** (noun) A thought for a plan of action.

**Boss** (adjective) The person in charge of a company.

**Flaw** (noun) A fault or defect

**Panic** (noun) To get worried.

# Vocabulary

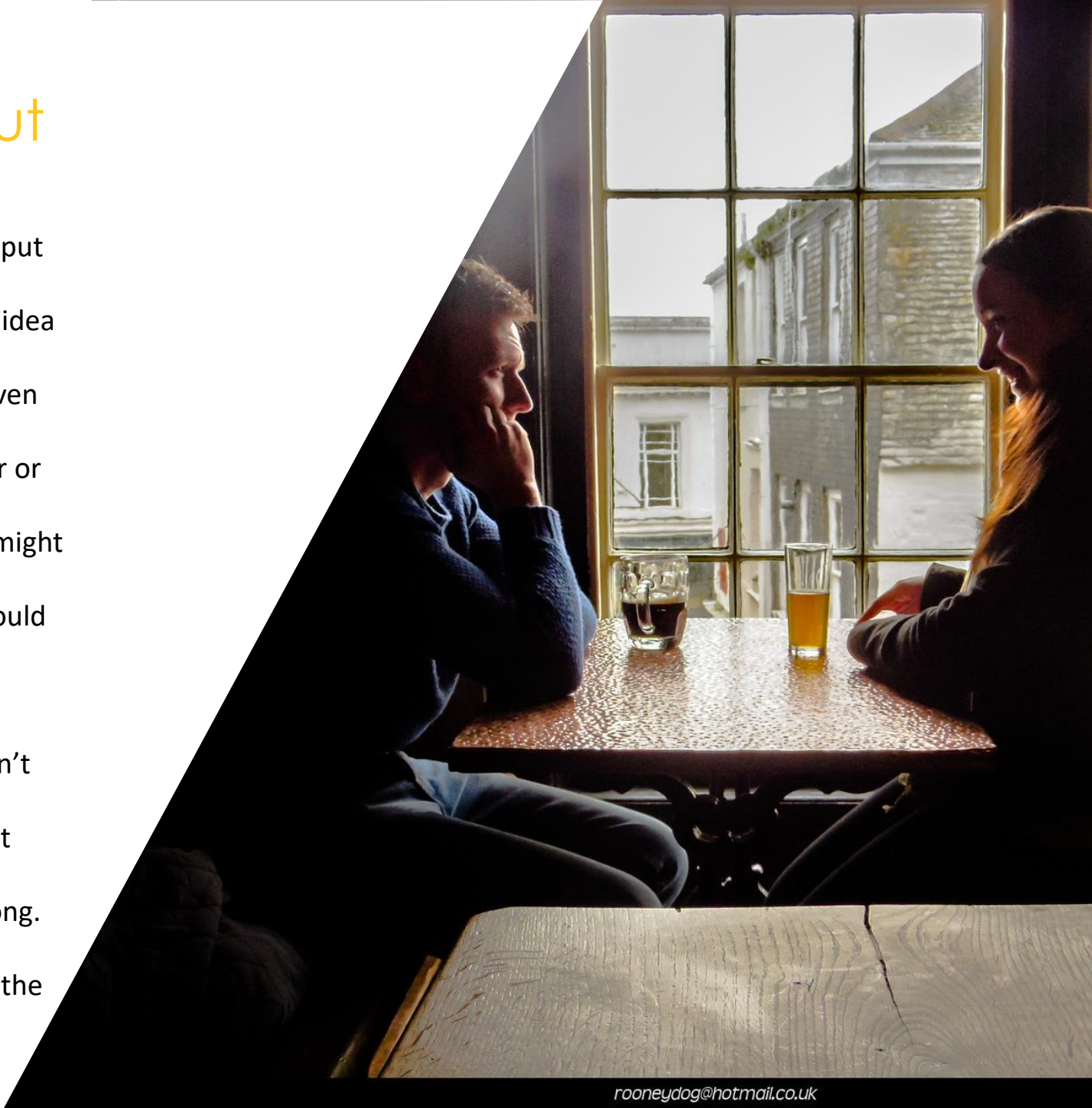
## Pros And Cons

Once you have your initial three ideas, you should then list the pros and cons of each. Pros are the positive sides to the solution and cons are the negative. An example of a con would be that something is too costly to do. After you have listed the pros and cons, look at your ideas again. Notice the **ratio** of pros to cons. Which idea has the most pros and the fewest cons? That should be the **idea** you attempt.



## Get Other Input

Once you have a solution ready, you should get input and suggestions from other people. First, run the idea past your **boss**, then check with colleagues and even ask friends for suggestions and advice on whether or not the solution will work. You never know, they might notice a fatal **flaw** in your plan. If they do, you should immediately try to fix the problem so that your solution will be effective. If your solution fails, don't **panic**. Explain things to your boss and then look at your solution and try to figure out what went wrong. If the solution can't be attempted again, move to the second solution on your list.





# DISCUSSION

Have you ever failed at something?

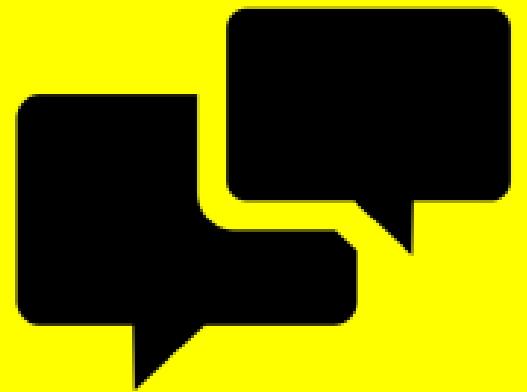
How do you handle failure?

Do you think failure is good or bad or neither?



## REVIEW DISCUSSION

Do you think coming up with solutions is a useful skill to have? What careers do you think this skill would be useful in?





# SPEAKING TASK

Your boss has a problem. His company is not selling enough electronics to make a profit and he wants you to come up with a solution to turn a profit for the company. Brainstorm some ideas and then come up with a solution to this problem and share it with the rest of the class.



# ASSESSMENT

Complete the sentences using the vocabulary words

from this lesson:

**boss / ratio / idea / flaw / panic**

1. It is important not to \_\_\_\_\_ if things go wrong.
2. I came up with a good idea but a colleague noticed a \_\_\_\_\_ in the plan.
3. My \_\_\_\_\_ has asked me to come up with a way to increase profit.
4. The pro-con \_\_\_\_\_ for your solution should be positive.
5. If you come up with a good \_\_\_\_\_, write it down so you remember it.



# ASSESSMENT

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# Thank you !

