

**Creative Thinking Skills : A Powerful Weapon for Academic Success in Contemporary Era****Dr. Sarla Nirankari**Principal,  
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From a long time, it was believed that creative thinking was only found in artists. It was only seen at the sight of a waste of time. Even though that mentality still exists in education. Creativity is one of the most valuable skills in today's complex world. Most people equate creativity with artistic tasks such as writing poem, painting a picture, or composing different type of music and dance. While these are all creative endeavors and not all creative thinkers are artists. Creative thinking is a prominent and honorable skill these days and with appropriate practice, everyone can think more creatively.

Creativity means having the power or quality to express yourself in different ways. It is a topic of ever-increasing interest, given its need and importance and applicability to literally every field. In this knowledge and modern technology era, the concerns and needs of an individual and perspective about education as well are changing day by day. Creative thinking is associated with how one approaches a problem or difficult situation. It involves finding a unique and creative solution to any unanswered question or problem. Some people are naturally more creative than other people, but creative thinking can be strengthened with practice and more thinking.

New ideas, intelligent solutions, unique collaborations and combinations all are a part of creative thinking. Creative people have the ability to devise new ways to carry out new tasks, solution of problems and meet challenges. They bring a fresh and sometimes unorthodox point of view to their work. This way of thinking can help to move in more productive directions in successful life. It exhibits the flexibility and imaginative power of a person. Creative thinking is stimulated by both structured processes such as lateral thinking and unstructured processes such as brainstorming.

At Present, there is a need to create future citizens who can improve the future of the country.

Creative thinking is important part in humans' life, because it helps us to look at problems and situations with fresh Innovative ideas & its prepare children for our complex and fast-changing

world, it is essential to cultivate their creative thinking skills.

**Thinking**

Thinking is the cognitive activity we use to process information, solve problems, make decisions, and create new ideas. We use our thinking skills when we try to make sense of experiences, organize information, prompt and make connections ask questions from others, make plans, or decide further what to do. These are following several types of ways of thinking.

**Positive Thinking**

- They are winners.
- Recognize their limitations/conditions but focus on their strengths.
- Always have part of the answer.
- Always have a program.
- Say "let me do it for u"
- See an answer for their problem.

**Negative Thinking**

- They have Losers.
- Recognize their strengths but focus on their deficiency.
- Always have an excuse.
- Always part of the problem.
- Says "that is not my job"
- See a problem for each one answer.

**Creative Thinking Skills**

"Looking at something in a new way, thinking outside the box". Creativity is a lifelong process in human life. It is an innate talent that you were born with and a set of skills that can be learnt, developed and utilized in daily life problem solving. Creative people work hard and strengthen on continually to improve ideas and solutions, by making gradual alterations to their works. Creative thinking means looking at something in a new & different ways. Creativity simply means being able to come up with something new and innovative.

One definition of creativity focuses on the process of "Creative thinking," which involves:

- the breaking up of old ideas
- being original and innovative
- seeing all things differently
- finding different solutions for old problems
- making strategy for success
- making new connections
- enlarging the limits of knowledge
- the onset of wonderful ideas

According to Robert Sternberg's words, Creative Thinking is the production of "something original and worthwhile".

**Dr. E. Paul Torrance** "A process of becoming sensitive to problems, deficiencies, gaps in knowledge, missing elements, disharmonies, and so on; identifying the difficulty; searching for solutions, making guesses, or formulating hypothesis about the deficiencies: testing and retesting these hypothesis and possibly modifying and retesting them; and finally communicating the results."

### Creative Thinking Skills Techniques

Creative thinking requires that you continually dig deep into yourself and generate more, newer, better, faster, cheaper, different ideas that you can use to improve the important parts of your life. There is no limit to ways there are of thinking creatively. Some techniques you can begin with are:

- Brainstorm ideas on one topic into a large piece of paper: don't edit these. Just write them down.
- Allowing yourself to play with an idea while you go for a walk.
- Draw or paint a theory on canvas or paper.
- Ask the same question at least ten times and give a different answer each time.
- Combine some of the features of two different objects or ideas to see if you can create more & more.
- Change your routine in life, Do all things in different way.
- Let your mind be influenced by new stimuli.
- Be open to ideas when they are still new, look for ways of making things & working idea to its limits.
- Ask any question such as 'what if....?', Or 'supposing....?'

### Ten Ways to Encourage Creative Thinking Skills

1. Make time for new & fresh innovative ideas
2. Stress the importance of creativity for problem
3. Challenge the way of working style
4. Train yourself in innovation techniques

5. Cross-fertilize
6. Actively solicit creative suggestions or ideas
7. Be supportive to others
8. Tolerate mistakes
9. Reward creativity
10. Act on ideas

### The Best Creative Skills in life: Examples

#### • Problem Solving

Tackling unexpected problems requires a lot of creativity. After all, employers want to hire creative thinkers not because of their creativity as such, but because they can use it to *solve* problems in an innovative way.

#### • Creative Writing

One of the most typical yet in-demand is creative skill. If you are able to write in a compelling, creative way, it will help you a great deal in marketing, sales and, obviously, journalism. It will also come in handy in all other positions that require writing—even if you're just drafting emails, reports and presentations.

#### • Open-Mindedness

When you're open-minded, you oppose stereotypes and look for new solutions and methods of doing things, instead of sticking to good all ways which might be no good after all.

#### • Analysis

If you can gather information and data, that's great but without creative thinking skills, you will not be able to analyze it properly. Creativity in analytical thinking helps you extract *meaning* from sets of raw data.

#### • Communication

No matter how great your ideas are, if you are unable to communicate in an engaging and creative way, you'll never get to implement them. And there are different types of communication skills.

#### • Active Listening

How can listening be considered "creative?" Well—through active listening you process ideas better so that you can challenge and refine them later during a creative brainstorming session.

#### • Leadership

Leadership is all about inspiring others. But when you have *great* leadership skills based on big and creative ideas and visions, you are able to

connect teams and motivate them to work together towards the end goal.

Creative thinking involves recommendation and expanding existing ideas to generate new theories and concepts. There are many Simple things. We can do which help to improve our creative thinking ability.

- Take regular physical exercise
- Eat a varied, balanced diet
- Practice relationship and meditation techniques
- Practice finding simulates between dissimilar things.
- Visit inspirational places
- Don't watch too much television
- Don't be afraid for any thing examination •

Be curious about everything Tackling puzzles is also a great way to strength and improve creative thinking skill.

#### **Creative Thinking Skills for Academic Success**

Academic achievement is an outcome of learning, which is typically measured by classroom grades, classroom assessments, and external achievement tests. Academic achievement refers to learned proficiency in basic skills and content knowledge. The term represents performance outcomes that indicate the extent to which a person accomplishes specific goals in educational arena. Hence, academic achievement should be taken as multifaceted construct of different learning domains. The sphere of academic achievement being very wide covers a broad variety of educational outcomes. Among the criteria indicating academic achievement, such as procedural and declarative knowledge acquired in an educational system, curricular-based criteria such as grades or performance in an educational achievement test, educational degrees and certificates. All criteria represent intellectual endeavors and intellectual capacity of a person. In developed societies, academic achievement plays a prominent role in every person's life. Academic achievement as measured by the GPA (grade point average) or by standardized assessments designed for selection purpose such as the SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) is the determinant of whether a student will have the opportunity to continue his or her education. Therefore, academic achievement

also mirrors whether one participates in higher education and the educational degrees one attains, undoubtedly influences one's vocational career after education. Moreover, the relevance for an individual, academic achievement is of utmost importance for the wealth of a nation and its prosperity. The strong association between a society's level of academic achievement and positive socioeconomic development is one reason for conducting international studies on academic achievement. The findings of these researches render information about different indicators of a nation's academic achievement; such information analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of a nation's educational scenario and provides guidance to educational policy decisions. In the context of individual and social importance of academic achievement, it is not surprising that academic achievement is the research focus of many scientists; for example, in psychology or educational disciplines.

Academic performance is the important part of the education. The term academic performance refers to the way how the students deal with their studies and how they handle with complete different tasks given to them by their teachers. Academic performance is the outcome of education and it explores at which extent a student, teacher or institutions has attained their educational objectives. Academic performance reflects the student ability and the students who are academically successful have higher self-esteem, and they have lower level of depression and anxiety and academically successful students have higher self-confidence as compare to others. Motivation about Academic Achievement also plays a significant role in the total shaping of personalities which in turn shape the economic and social destiny of given society. Every human behavior is based on some of other cause. Motives play major role and are the causative factors of human behavior.

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