

Stratagame Project

Ability to create connections of ideas



Some research has shown intelligence is closely linked with the physical connections in our brains. Research from the California Institute of Technology showed that general intelligence is based on the brain's ability to pull together and integrate various types of processing.

Beyond connectivity in the brain, the ability to create connections between ideas and knowledge that we keep in our memories conduce us to think more creatively.

To fuel creative thinking, it is important to put together ideas and pieces of knowledge from our experiences and the world around us and connect them.

Jobs explained that experience is the secret to being able to make connections readily.

Maria Popova, talking about "combinatorial creativity" (connect things to create new ideas) said "(...) in order for us to truly create and contribute to the world, we have to be able to connect countless dots, to cross-pollinate ideas from a wealth of disciplines, to combine and recombine these pieces and build new castles".

Originality often consists in linking up ideas whose connection was not previously suspected (1).

When we talk about "creating connections of ideas", we refer to the possibility of associating ideas of different people or of combining experiences, knowledge, with something new to generate a new and sometimes original idea. The ability to create connection of ideas can be used to integrate new ideas, knowledge into existing frameworks, to relate new concepts to those that have already been and to make connections between many discrete and distinct observations.

To create something creative, innovative and original, it is often necessary to put together different things. For example, to solve a problem in a company, human resources work-ing in different sectors could work together and use the different experiences, integrating them, to create a single idea. If you try to compare your ideas to other ones, You'll surely find some differences between your ideas and other ones.

To make this capacity work, it is sometimes necessary to also use mediation or negotiation skills. In fact, it would not be possible to connect ideas of 2 people without taking into account what was said by everyone. Is important to find ones you have in common and to find agreement between your ideas and the other ones, looking for (sometimes) alternative solutions.

(1) source <https://www.fastcompany.com/3031994/the-secret-to-creativity-intelligence-and-scientific-thinking>



Where it is decided to integrate two ideas produced by the same person, it would be necessary to evaluate, first of all, the ideas individually, take the aspects considered most advantageous (in order to solve the problem) and put them in connection with each other.

This implies, therefore, the use of complex cognitive processes.

When you work on something new, it may happen that the available ideas are not enough, you might think, therefore, to look for information in something already known, taking into account what can be useful and what is irrelevant. In this way, through the connection between past experiences and new information, a process of linking ideas could take place that would lead to a creative solutions.

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A new (creative) idea or its re-elaboration would, in fact, be constituted - according to Mednik - by the set of associations that are recorded in the brain, such as the memory of the impressions, the stimulations and the information learned, linked together. There-fore, we would pass from the selection of the most important information to the connection of such previously separate and apparently irreconcilable information, finally putting in relation the information acquired with those already learned to solve a problem. In this way, innovative and original combinations would be created.

The ability to create connections of ideas involves good self-awareness and the ability to make decisions constructively, evaluating the possible options, weighing and assuming the consequences and responsibility of the choices made.

So, you can begin to connect your point of view and other ones starting with small things of everyday life.

