

Integrating Critical and Creative Thinking via Reflective Practice

694 SYNTHESIS

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Introduction

2007

Record
Profits



Growth



Global
Expansion



Bankruptcies



Workforce Reductions



Moral Dilemma

Perform work that strengthens the company financially but at the expense of individual employees?

Pros

The company stays competitive and is able to continue to employ thousands of employees.

Cons

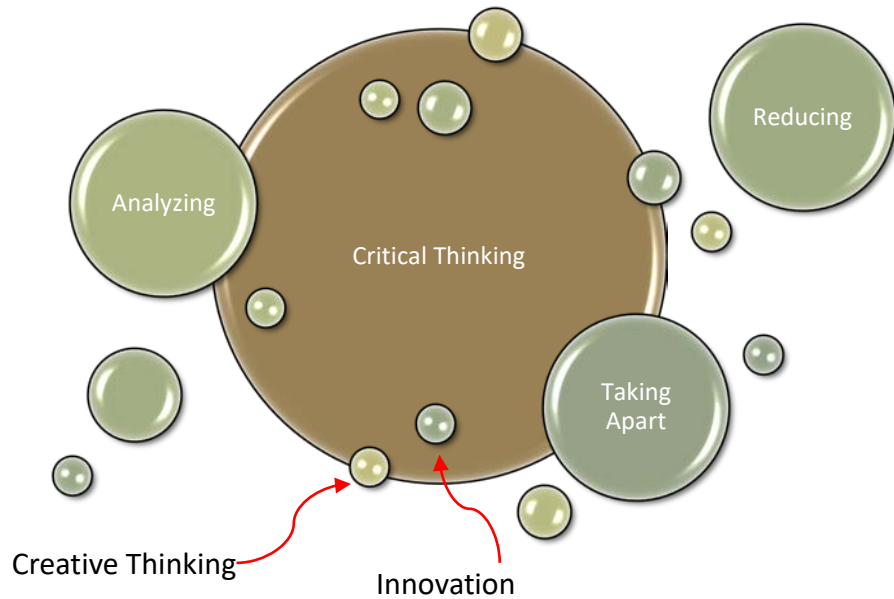
Some individuals/friends are now unemployed in a difficult job market.

Do the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few?

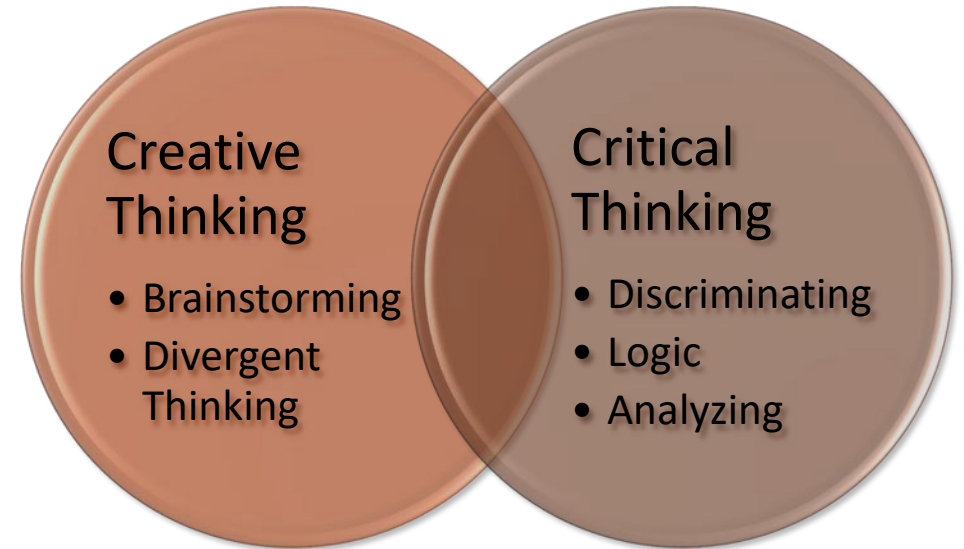
Oh, the Irony...



How I Thought I Thought...



How I Wanted to Think



MA in Critical and Creative Thinking
UMass Boston

Taking the Leap

(Or Dipping a Toe)

Creativity

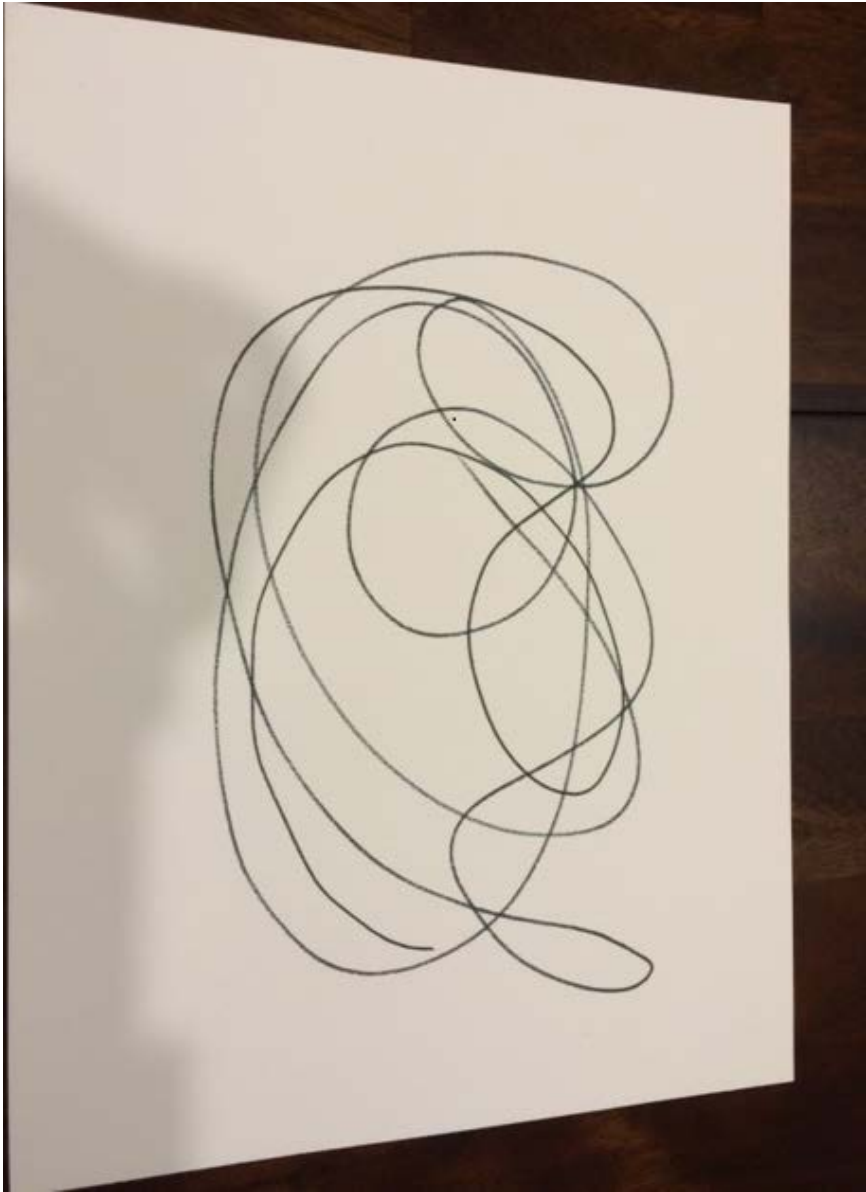
The use of the imagination or original ideas, especially in the production of an *artistic* work.

- Google

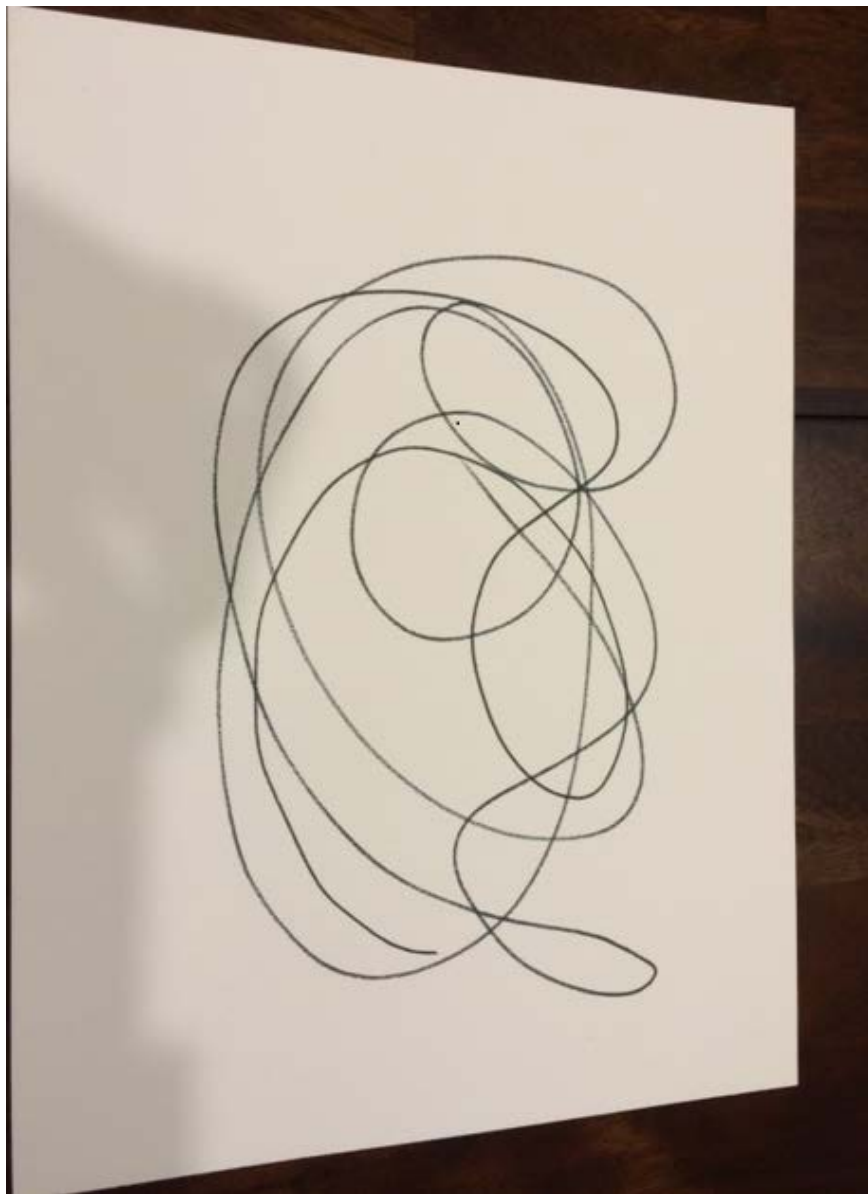
Creativity

Creativity is the development of a new idea or product which solves a problem or provides value to the creator or others.

- Seidl



The Scribble Exercise



And...Voilà



Obstacles

- Definition of Creativity
- Fear of Failure/Ambiguity
- Not Having a Process

What I've Learned

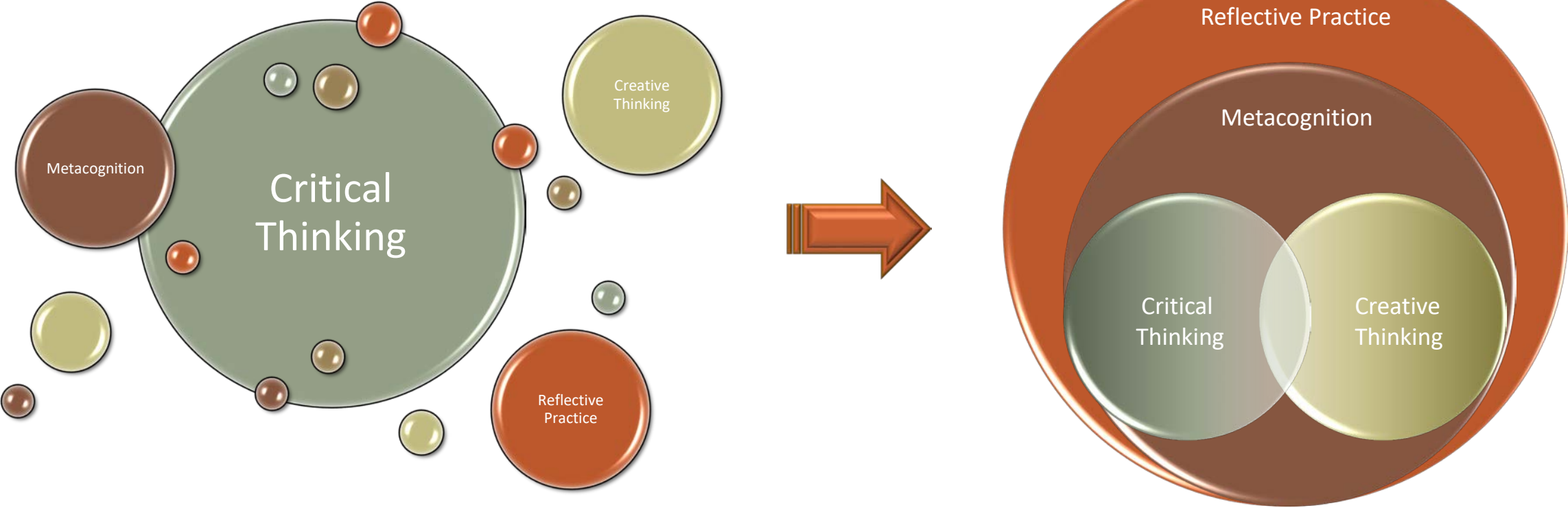
Use of Reflective Practice

- Reflective Practice was perhaps the most important part of the program
- Understanding how and why I thought, recognizing blocks and misperceptions
- Techniques such as freewriting, journaling, 5 Whys

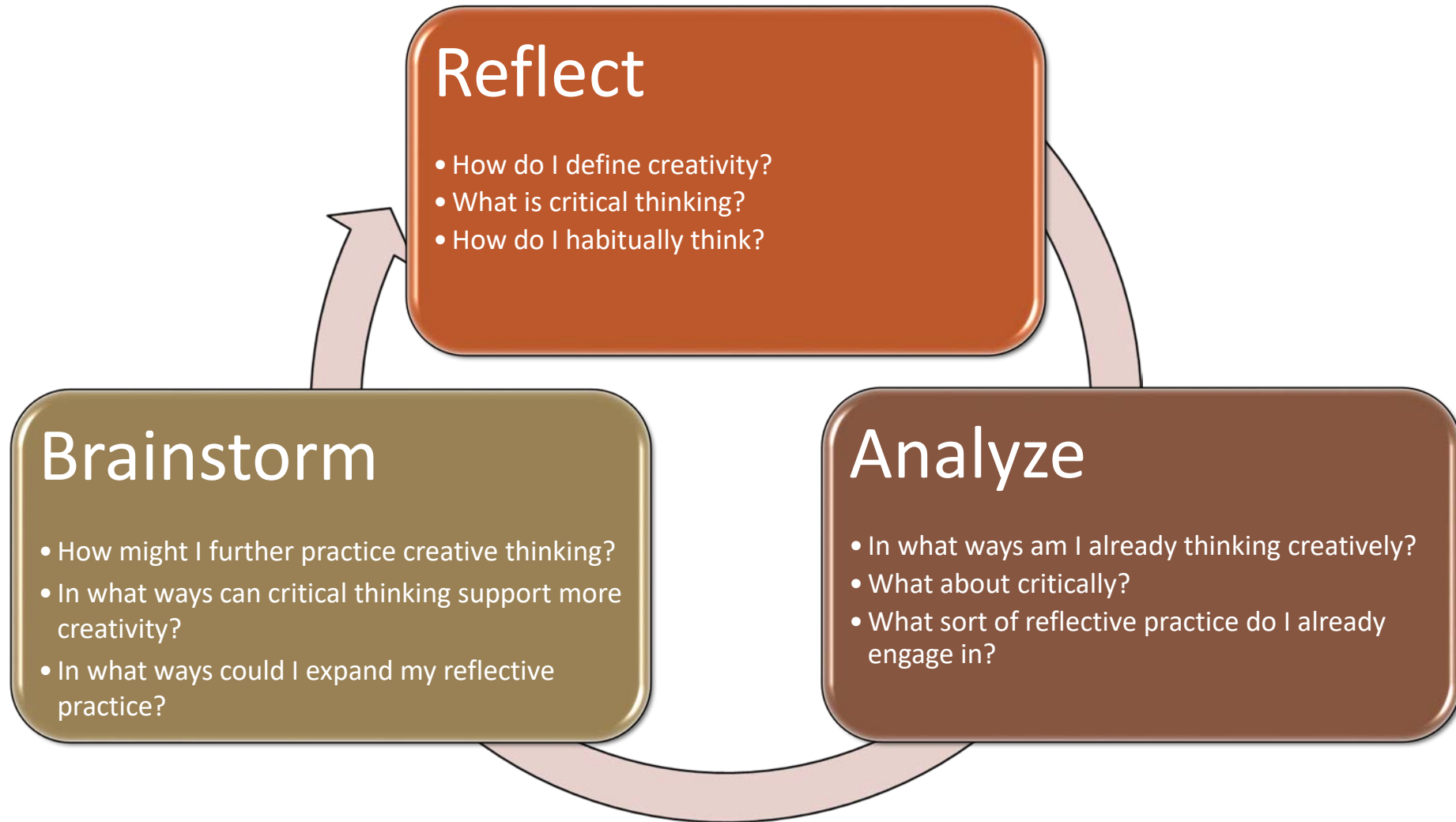
Appreciating and Integrating Our Thinking

- Less about using critical and creative thinking equally
- More about integration and accessing when needed
- Embracing natural talents, critical or creative

Integration of Critical and Creative Thinking



Framework



Next Steps

- Further Develop Framework
- Review Other Methods of Reflective Practice