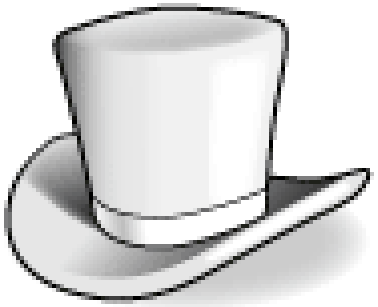
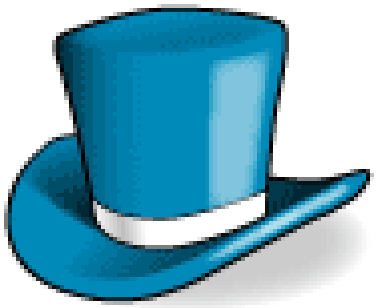
Six Hat Thinking

27th January 2014

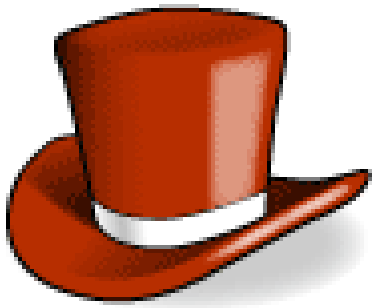


Objective



Process

Problems



Intuitive

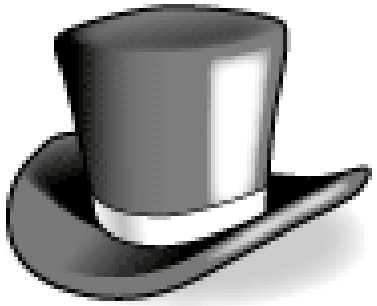
Emotions

Helplessness

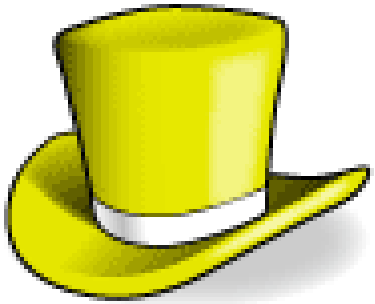
Confusion

Creative

Positive



Negative



Who shall I invite to the party?

Where should we holiday?

What should I wear?

Should we move house?

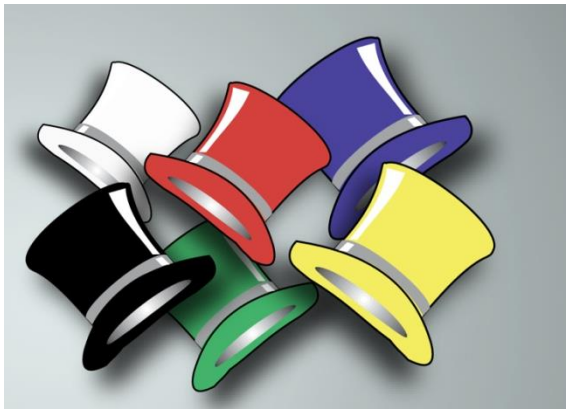
Should we marry?

Where do we park?

Should I go for promotion?

What colour tiles in the bathroom?

Should we change the car?

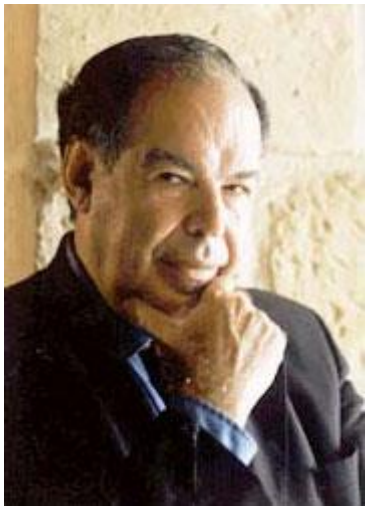


Problems
Problems
Problems

How do we think?
How do we solve them?

Edward de Bono

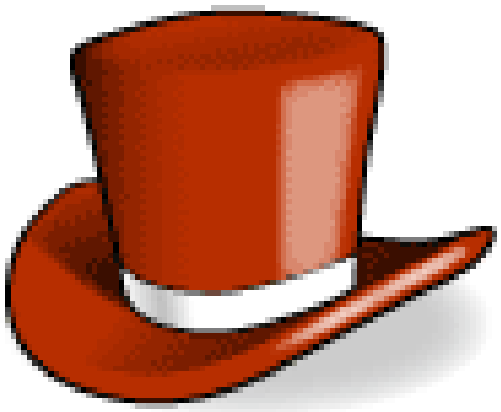
- Edward de Bono is regarded by many to be the leading authority in the world in the field of creative thinking and the direct teaching of thinking as a skill.
- “I am one of the very few people in history to have had a major impact on the way we think - rather than on what we think.” (modest)
- Oxford scholar with a background in Medicine Psychology



De Bono Talks about Six Hat Thinking

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3ew6h5nHcc

The Red Hat



"What do I feel about this?"

Emotions blur thinking and clarity

Feelings, we bring prejudices, aethetics and anxiety to problems

Hunches, we have gut reactions to things

These need to be acknowledged when solving problems if we dont do this we try to disguise our feelings as LOGIC.

The Yellow Hat

"What are the good points here?"

What are the benefits?

Good Points

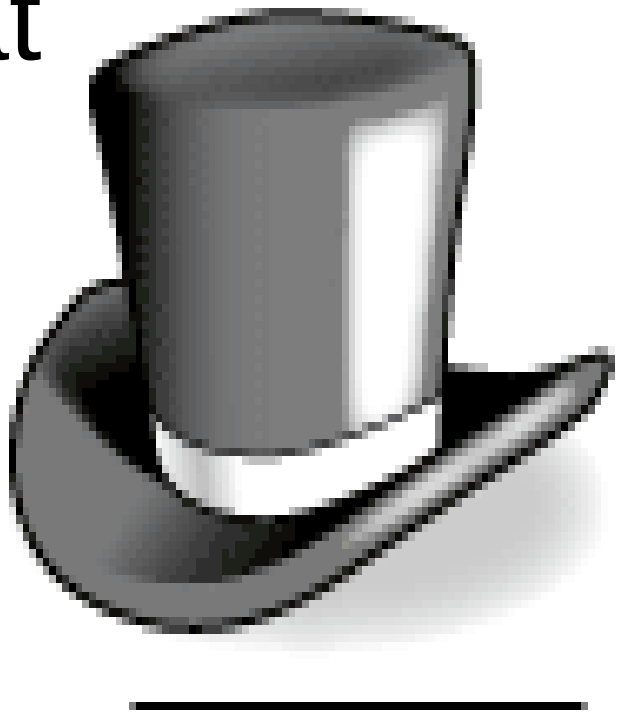
Benefits

Reasons that the idea will work

Likelihood

This is the sunshine hat looking for the positives

The Black Hat



What is wrong with this?

Checking for evidence

Checking for logic/feasibility

Checking for impact

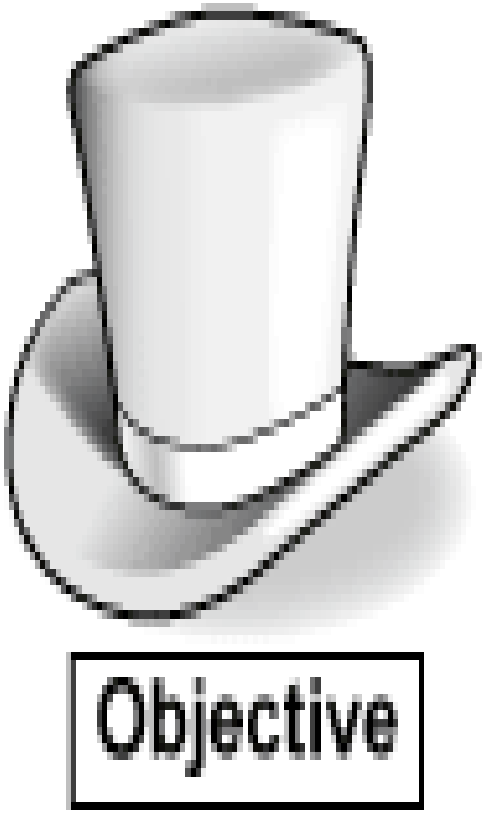
Checking for fit

Checking for weakness

The Hat is there to help us making mistakes. it is there to point out dangers or difficulties.

There is a world of difference between looking at an idea to attack it and looking at an idea to improve it.

The White Hat



What information do we have?

What information do we need?

How do we get the information that we need?

gather data, seek information, use and select the information that you have in order to inform the problem solving process.

The Green hat

What Ideas do we have?

Let’s look at things from a different/ any angle.

Lets get creative.

Be alternative

Generate ideas

Green shoots of creativity. You can’t assess an idea until you have one.

The Blue Hat

What thinking has been done?

What is the next step?

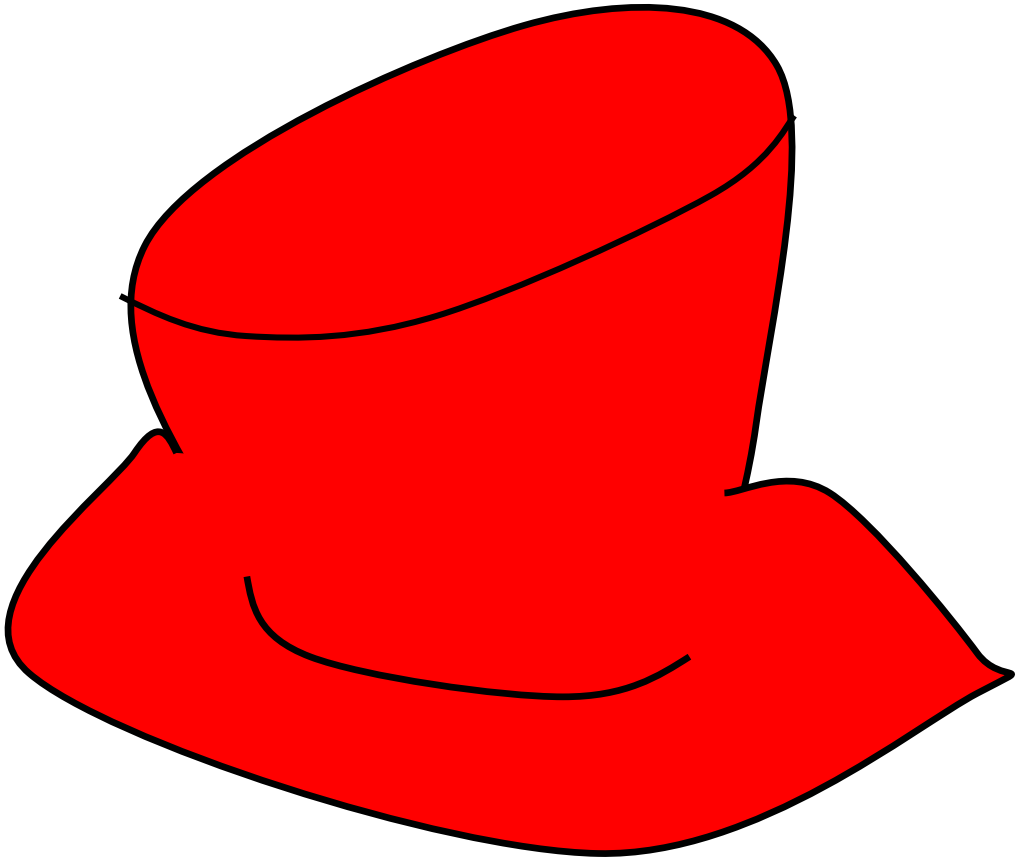
What thinking is needed

Metacognition

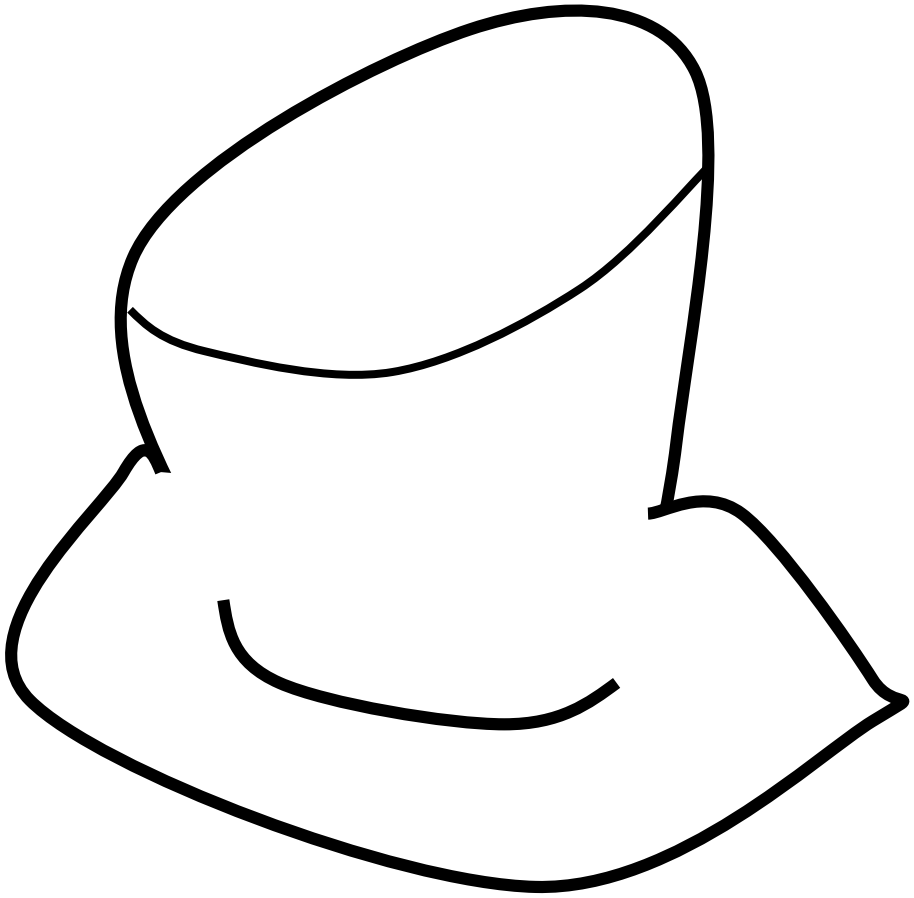
Reviewing and summarising the thinking

Finding the next steps

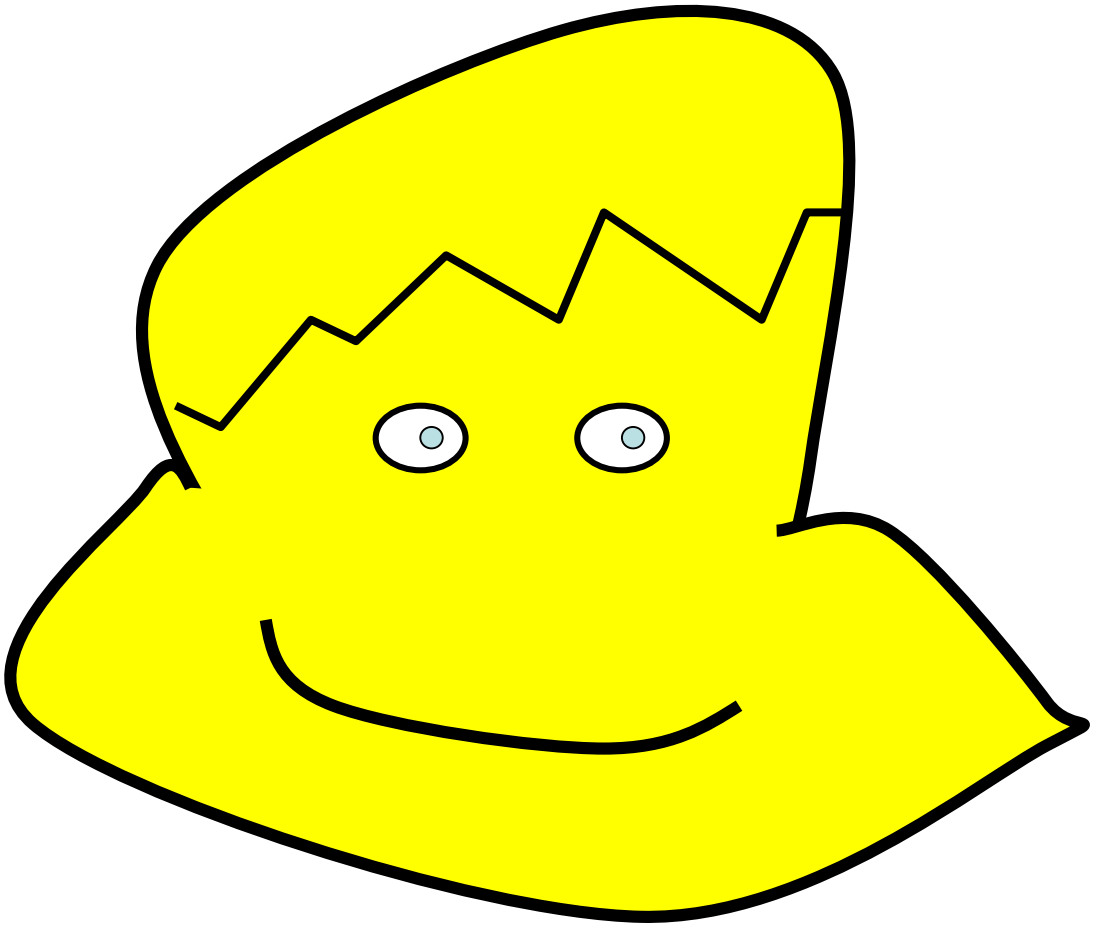
Unlike the other hats, which are states of mind, this is a way of guiding the process to empower greater thinking.



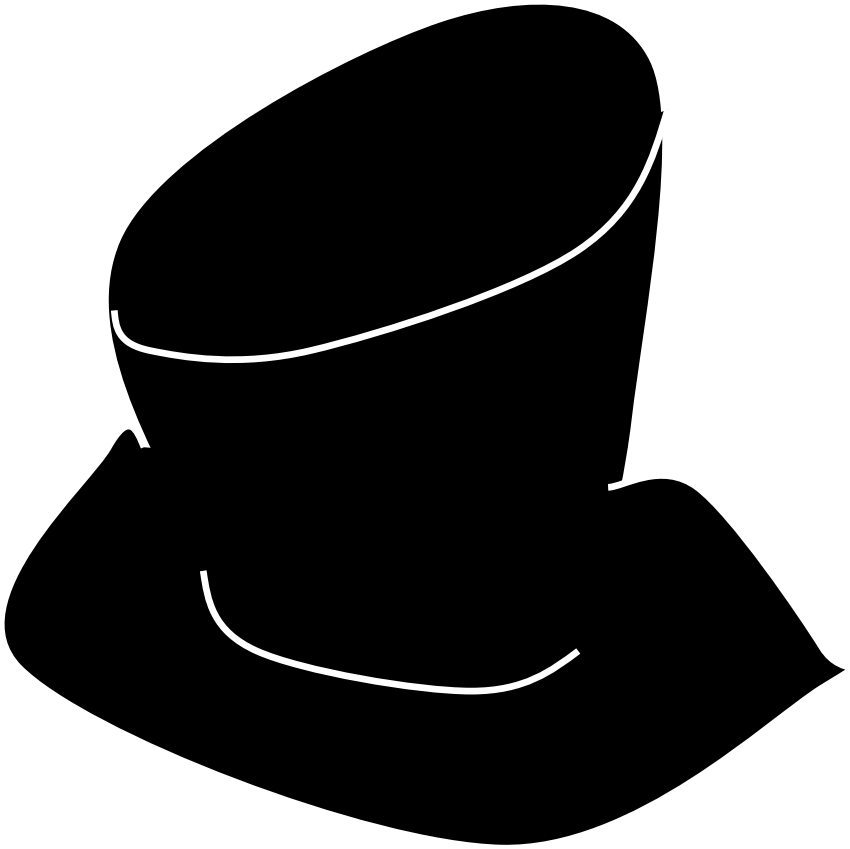
Red hat to find out what we feel about this idea.



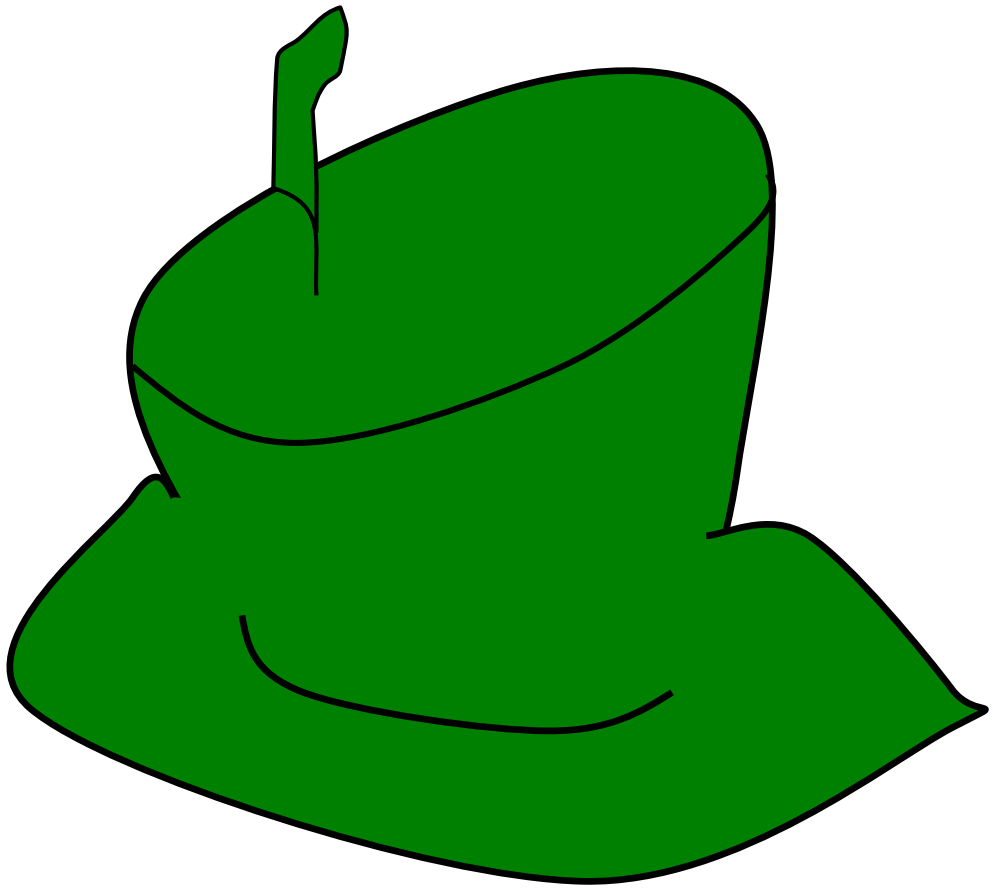
White to consider what information and facts we already have or will need to know.



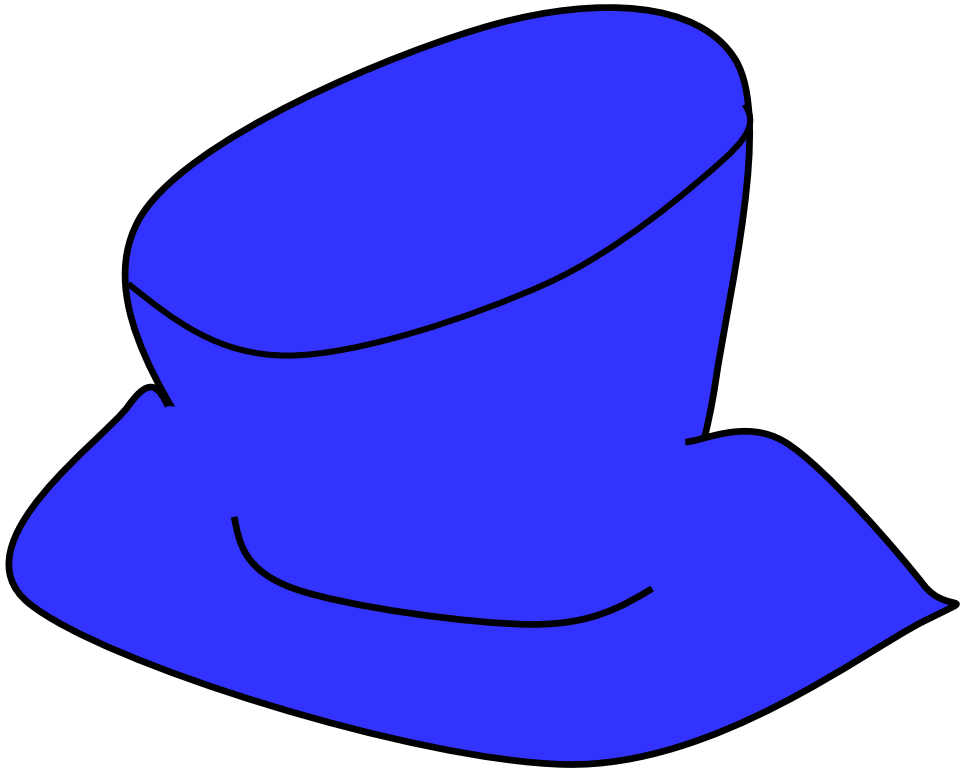
Yellow hat to think about the good points and give reasons.



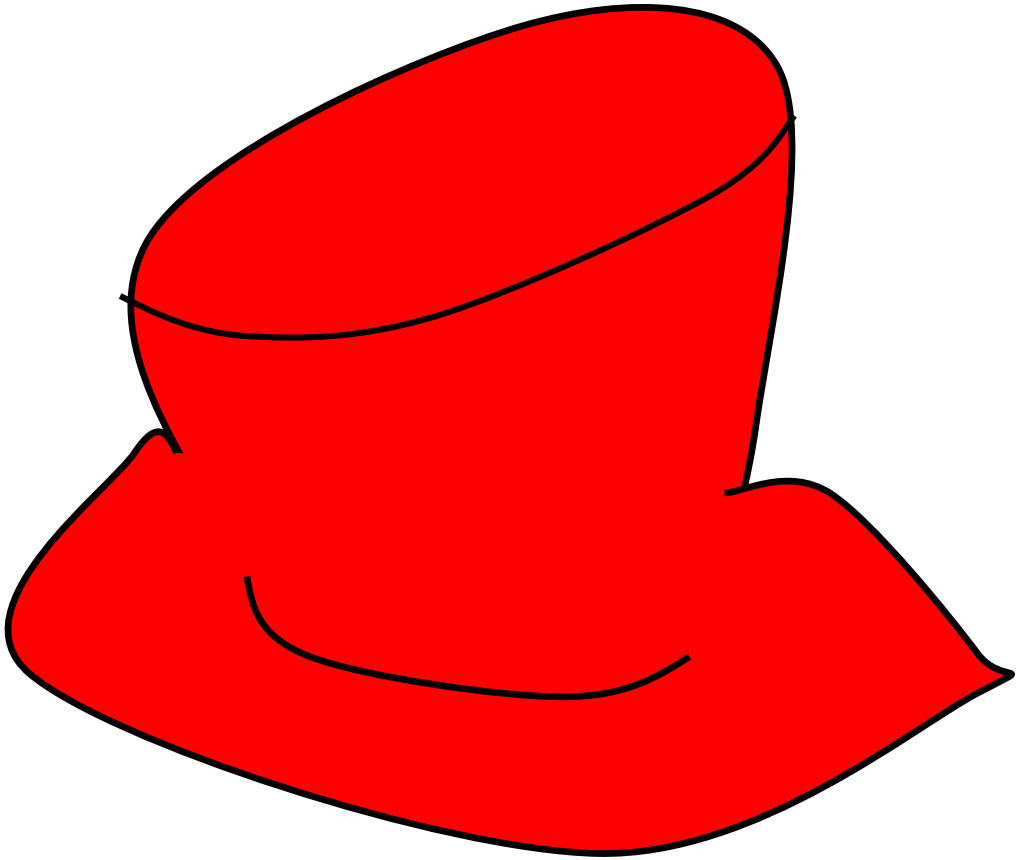
Black hat to point out some of the problems we might need to think about and why.



Green hat to see if we can think of some really wacky ideas!

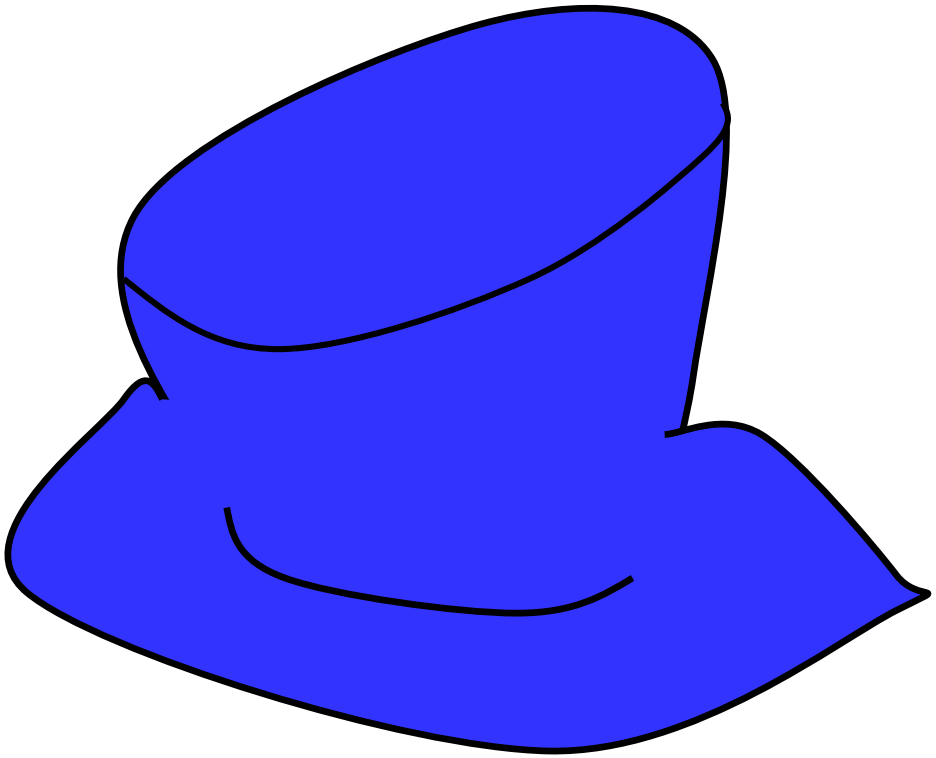


Blue to think about all the thinking and decide on the next steps.



Red hat to reflect on how we feel about our decision.

METACOGNITION



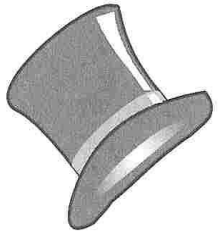
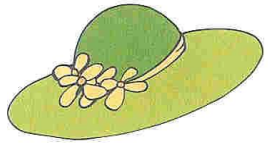
Thinking about the thinking

Which hat were you wearing when you had most to say?

What happens if someone mostly wears:

Yellow?

Green?

Red?

Black?