

Creativity in practice: engaging students and staff with information literacy



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Overview

- Icebreaker activity
- What is creativity and why does it matter?
- Creative IL teaching at LSE
- Creative techniques
 - Mind maps
 - Lateral thinking
 - Pedagogic planning tools
- Group exercise and feedback



Creativity

- What is creativity?
- Why use creative techniques or what is wrong with a lecture on information skills?
- Does chocolate really work?
- Ice-breaker




Overview of three creative IL sessions / techniques at LSE

PhD postcards

‘Sometimes a scream is better than a thesis’

(Ralph Waldo Emerson)



LSE
Library
British Library of Political and Economic Science

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Keywords: _____

Would you like to be put in touch with other students doing similar research?
 Yes No (tick box)

statistics anthropology human rights economics anthropology psychology accounting property geography law economic history mathematics history practice globalisation
European studies finance sociology intellectual property geology human rights business politics development legislation globalisation
economics health philosophy intellectual relations statistics anthropology human rights business politics development legislation gender mathematics
management international relations statistics anthropology European studies finance sociology accounting psychology biotechnology law economic history gender
environment social policy poverty European studies health philosophy intellectual property intellectual relations statistics anthropology human rights business practice
communications government economics health philosophy intellectual relations statistics anthropology human rights business practice
story public policy globalisation management international relations statistics anthropology human rights business practice

Skills burst!

- Key legal research skills in context

- **Skills when needed**

- Short
- Use relevant example: e.g. Finding a case history



Collaboration

**Dialogue with
academic staff**

Google generation debate

- Important role of debate or 'conversations' in learning
- LSE Teaching Day event attended by staff and PhD students
- Four speakers (2 academics, 1 student, 1 librarian)
- Led to drafting of an information literacy strategy
- Information literacy now embedded in PGCert

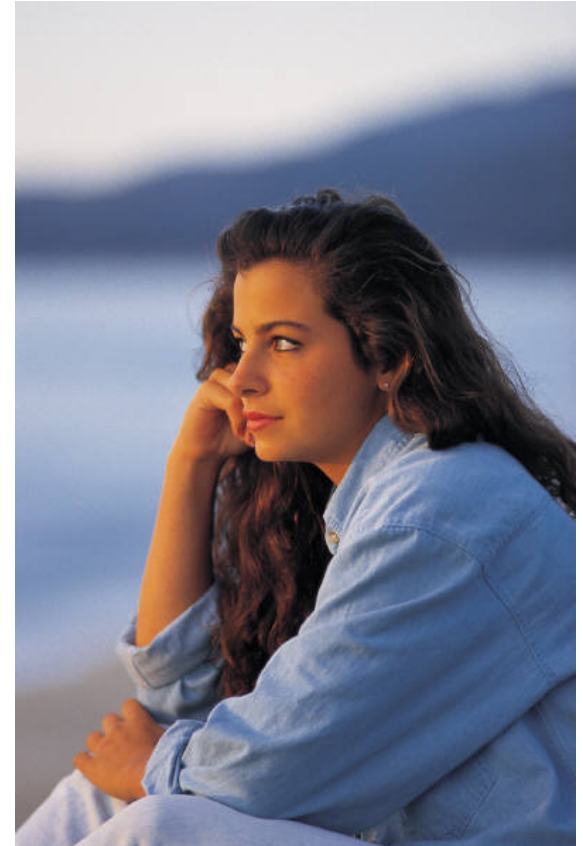


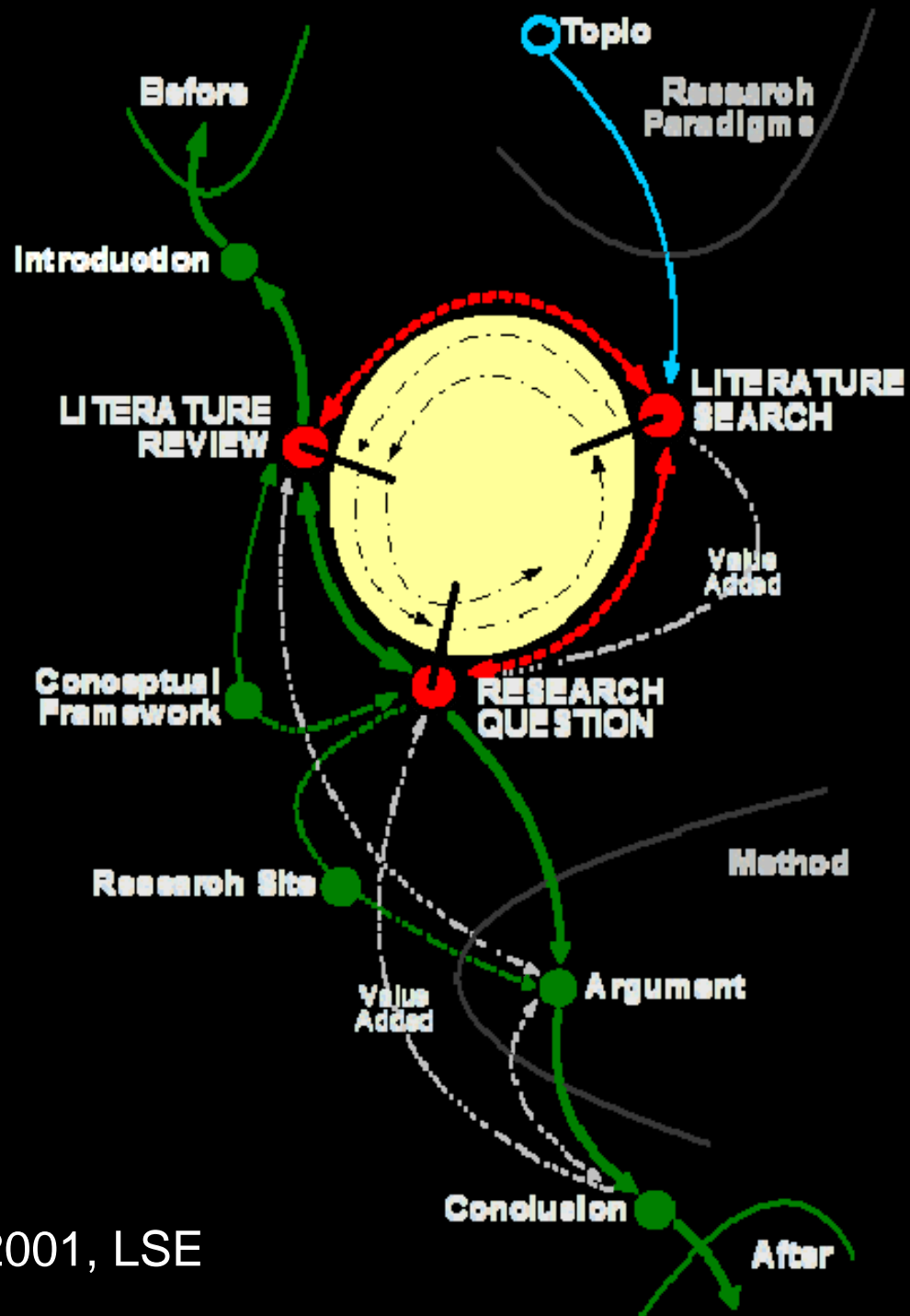
Activity

Creative techniques 1

Mind maps

- Graphic representation of ideas
- Visualisation
- Relationships between concepts





Creative techniques 2

- Brainstorming / lateral thinking
- Edward de Bono's Six thinking hats



Creative technique 3

- The role of technology in the creative process
- Using technology in our teaching something many of us familiar with
- Less use of pedagogic planning and design tools
- Examples include Xerte, LAMS and Glomaker
- Using LDSE pedagogic planning tool to plan an information literacy session



Group activity

- Plan a session using a creativity technique in place of regular planning
 - Copyright training for staff
 - Plagiarism / citing & referencing for UGs
 - Introduction to the library for 6th form students
 - Blogging session for PhD students
 - Masters students starting their dissertation
 - Improving web searching for support staff

Group activity feedback

- Which session did you plan?
- Which creative technique did you use?
- Reflect on its effectiveness
- Briefly outline your session to the group

We hope we've inspired you to get creative!



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