insights EMERGE with the exchange of NEW IDEAS.

Canterbury Christ Church University

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Six Thinking Hats vs. Six Good Men: Does the order of the elements matter?

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Creative Problem Solving

• An essential skill
  • Now doubt that training *can* help
    (see, Ma, 2006; Scott et al., 2004a; 2004b, Wang & Horng, 2002)

• However, which tools work and why
  (see, Vernon, Hocking & Tyler, 2016)

• Six thinking hats and six good men
  (see, Vernon & Hocking, 2014; 2016)
Creative Problem Solving

- Does the order of the cues matter?
  - Primacy, recency, satisficing (e.g., Krosnick & Presser, 2010)

- Ambiguous views
  - Start with the blue hat (Pohl, 1994)
  - No, the yellow hat (Paterson, 2006)
  - White first (de Bono, 2009)

- Aim
  - Examine the effect of the tools given in two orders
Creative Problem Solving

Demographic Q's

How creative?

Hats order A

Hats order B

Men order A

Who, How, Why, What, Where, When

Men order B

When, Where, What, Why, How, Who

Controls

Main Task

3 mins to restate the problem

‘Scientist in Africa, studying monkey behaviour. See monkeys eating dirt. Usually they just eat leaves and fruit’.

Post Problem Questions

Easy/diff Use again Motivated

N = 100
Creative Problem Solving

Fluency

Flexibility

Quality

Compared to Controls

* p<0.05

** p<0.01
Creative Problem Solving

• Order of the hats/men had no effect
  • Insufficient power?
    • Eye tracking study planned

• Structure *does* help
  • Both six hats and six men led to greater
    • *fluency, quality and flexibility*
  • Easier to use ‘six men’ and more likely to use in future

• Future
  • Transfer effects
  • Fixed problem effects
  • Duration of benefits
  • Length of training
Thank You

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