

Task 1 - Go through all 16 steps. Write down how this tool (criteria, steps, methodology) can be useful for developing creative and innovative thinking in schools and how you could use it as a teacher (at least 1800 signs).

It is very interesting for me to see that every step includes a definition, an explanation of why that specific step is important with a few bullet points and the final section explains how to build that skill: it is explained in a simple but clear way, so that everybody can understand it.

There are also reflective questions for individuals and observation cues for trainers: teachers can use these to help develop their own creativity but also to be able to recognise creativity in their students.

The website is also full of resources that can be used by parents and teachers to use with kids, here are some things that I found that I might use or take inspiration from in the future:

- Workbook: there is a 53 pages-long workbook that takes the child (but it can also be done by adults) through the first eleven steps. Each step is explained and there are also a few questions that allow to dig deep into each specific part and self-reflect on how much the person has developed that specific step
- Assembly: it is a PowerPoint explaining the creativity skill. It includes, as always, the definition of the general skill and the first few steps but also some questions that might start a brainstorming in class (What is creativity? Look at this picture and think about what you might see, hear and feel). I especially love these questions that allow kids to freely give their opinion and share it with others as it helps also with understanding other people's point of view. The last part includes questions that promote self-reflection: this is very useful for the kids, because they can start from here to think about ways in which they might improve in that skill and if they write it, notice their progress over time
- Passport: this is a self-assessment tool that keeps track of progress made in every creativity step. For each step, the person is asked to write three examples of situations taken from their life and write it on the passport. As I said before, keeping track of progress can be very useful to develop the skill and to celebrate every step of the journey. If shared with the educators (teachers and parents), it helps them to find ways in which they can help the pupil to improve

Talking in general, I like that it is very structured and coherent to itself: it might seem repetitive, but in my opinion it's good that each skill is explained thoroughly in each activity, allowing both pupils and teachers to revise constantly and reflecting on a deeper level. Explaining the same things using different means (text, video, audio) allows people to learn in their own way, it is very inclusive.

As a teacher, the website is a very useful resource for thinking beyond the mere content level of learning: it can help to include activities that allow pupils to learn not only the subjects but also develop skills that they will use for the rest of their lives in everyday teaching. For example, if we want to develop step 3 (Expressing imagination), we might implement role play in an English lesson by making the pupils act a scene, or making the pupils draw a different ending after finishing a book.

Task 2 - Which skills have I always had? Which particular skills have I improved during this course? Which skills would I like to acquire/practice next year? Why is

it important in my future profession / in my life / in the 21st century? How will I do it? What can help me to develop this particular skill? (at least 1800 signs)

I have never thought of myself as a particularly creative person: the Italian school system does not focus on creativity nor does it try to develop divergent thinking, and for this reason I don't think I have ever received any feedback on it.

However, I think of myself as good at thinking creatively by myself (imagining, generating ideas, combining concepts, reflecting critically, using curiosity), but for some reason I still feel very insecure and self-conscious when it comes to sharing my ideas with other people (sharing and expressing imagination, suggesting improvements). I am gradually getting better at it, and I think this course has helped making me realise that I have nothing to worry about and that good things come from sharing my ideas with others and discussing about them. To get better at it, during the new year I want to be surrounded by open-minded people, that value other people's thoughts so that I can feel like I can share my ideas with them without the feeling of being judged.

I would also like to get better at flexible thinking, seeking perspectives and facilitating creativity: I think the first two are a must for teachers, as they need to think rapidly and efficiently, trying to find the best ways to solve many kinds of problems regarding different contexts, situations, people. Regarding facilitating creativity, it is crucial for a teacher to give space and time for understanding the pupils and finding ways to engage with every one of them, giving space to everybody and creating a safe environment that is free of judgement. I will try to include these aspects into my teaching practice and in my future profession and self-reflect on my actions periodically so that I can keep track of any progress.

Finally, I believe creativity to be essential for living in the 21st century: with the rise of new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, skills like seeking perspectives, prototyping and using curiosity are more valuable than ever because they come from the human mind. As educators, we should teach children to trust and rely more on their own ideas rather than a computer's.