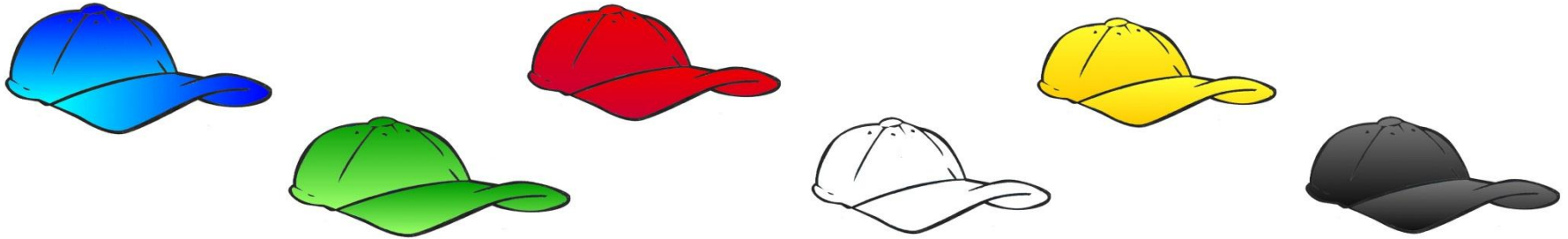


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# **Dr Edward De Bono's Thinking Hats**

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# Six Thinking Hats



- ❖ This framework for thinking was developed by De Bono in 1985
- ❖ It defines six metaphorical hats representing different modes of thinking
- ❖ It encourages pupils to think in a variety of ways

- ❖ Each of the hats is a different colour and represents a different mode of thinking
- ❖ When you 'put on' one of the hats, you only think in that particular mode
- ❖ When you change from one hat to another, you change thinking modes
- ❖ It encourages co-operation
- ❖ Enhances quality of thinking
- ❖ Can be used at all levels

# YELLOW HAT

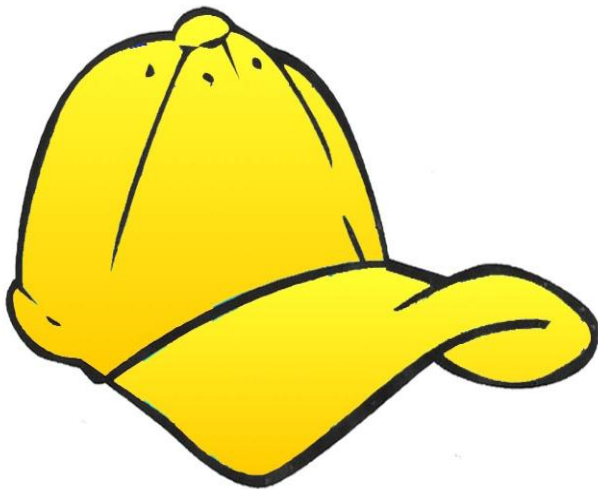
- The yellow hat is for optimism
- It looks for logical, positive views of things
- It looks for benefits
- Typical questions:

*Why is this worth doing?*

*How will it help us?*

*Why will it work?*

*What are the advantages and benefits?*



POSITIVE

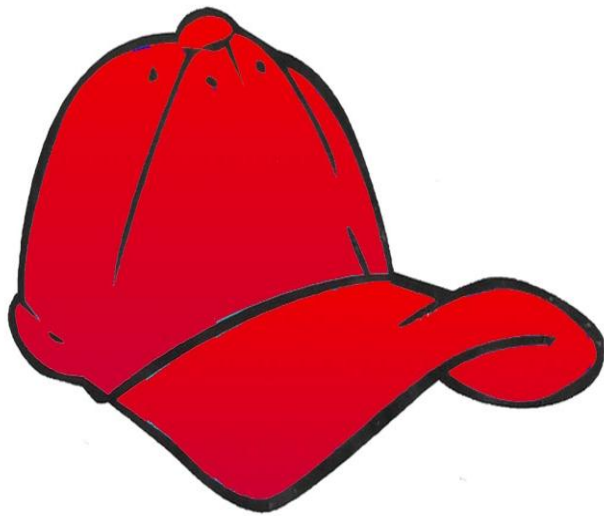
# BLACK HAT



NEGATIVE

- The black hat points to concerns or ‘down-sides’
- The black hat points out the disadvantages and problems with things
- The black hat is for critical judgement and caution.
- Typical questions:  
*What are the weaknesses?*  
*What is wrong with this idea?*

# RED HAT



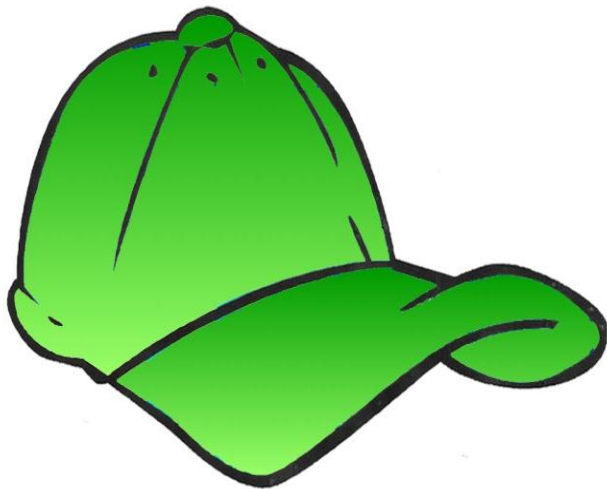
FEE L I N G S

- The red hat is concerned with feelings, opinions, hunches and emotions
- The red hat allows you to express your thoughts without explanation, or the need to justify them
- Typical questions:

*What do you feel about this right now?*

*How do you feel instinctively?*

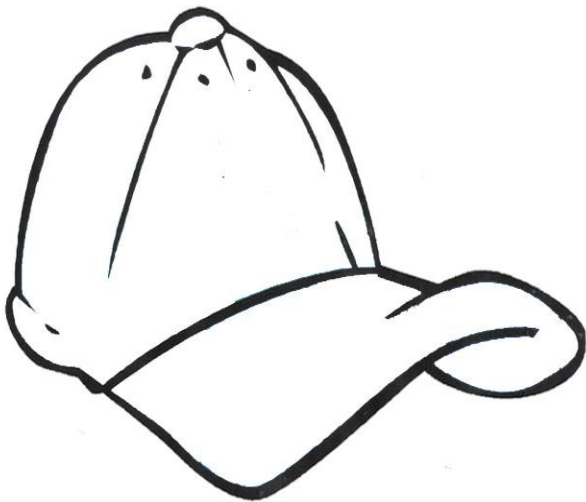
# GREEN HAT



NEW IDEAS

- The green hat is for creative thinking and new ideas
- The green hat is for additional alternatives, suggestions and proposals
- Typical questions:
  - What are some other ways to solve this problem?*
  - Can we explore some new suggestions?*

# WHITE HAT

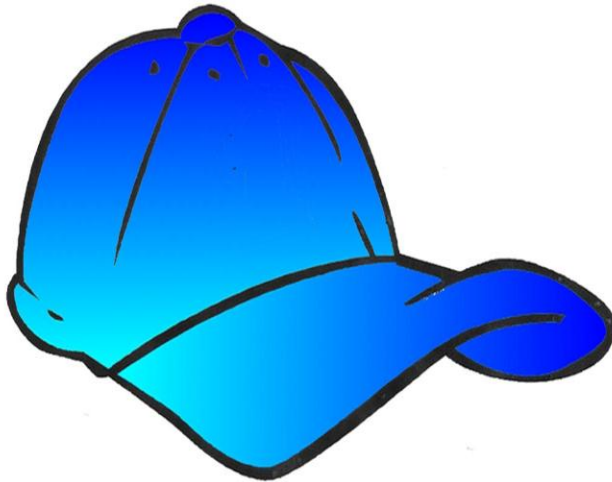


INFORMATION

- The white hat deals with data and information
- The white hat looks for gaps in knowledge and tries to fill them
- Typical questions:  
*What information do we have?*  
*What information is missing?*  
*How are we going to get the information?*



# BLUE HAT:



ORGANISATION

- The blue hat is used to organise the thinking processes being used.
- The blue hat sets the agenda for thinking.
- The blue hat can ask for other hats.
- The blue hat asks for summaries, conclusions and decisions.
- Typical questions:
  - What have we done so far?*
  - What will we do next?*

- “The six thinking hats is a method for doing one sort of thinking at a time. Instead of trying to do everything at once, we ‘wear’ only one hat at a time”

*Edward de Bono*

*Teach Your Child to Think*

*Viking 1992*