**CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING**

**PRACTICAL TASK**

**Six thinking hats technique**

**Objective of the task:** touse the Six thinking hats technique to evaluate the decision from different perspectives and help you make a well-rounded choice.

**Problem**. You're considering whether to switch careers to pursue a new job opportunity in a different industry. You enjoy your current job, but the new position offers exciting growth potential, though it comes with risks.

### Instructions

Set aside 15-20 minutes and "wear" each hat as you explore the decision-making process. Write down your thoughts for each hat.

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| White hat (Information and facts): | | Your thoughts |
| Focus on the facts and data available. What do you know for sure about both your current job and the new opportunity? What are the salary, benefits, working conditions, and career growth potential in each role? | Example:   * + - Current job: Steady income, 5 years of experience, familiar work environment.     - New job: Higher salary, industry growth, but potential instability as a new role in an emerging market. |  |
| Red hat (Emotions and intuition): | |  |
| Explore your emotions and gut feelings about the decision. How do you feel about staying in your current job or switching to the new opportunity? What are your fears or excitements? | Example:   * + - Staying in your current job feels safe but stagnant. The new opportunity excites you, but you're nervous about the unknowns. |  |
| Black hat (Caution and risks): | |  |
| Consider the risks and potential downsides of both options. What could go wrong if you take the new job? What risks are involved in staying in your current role? | Example:   * + - New job: Could be unstable if the company struggles or fails.     - Current job: Lack of growth opportunities could lead to dissatisfaction in the long term. |  |
| Yellow hat (Optimism and benefits): | |  |
| Focus on the positives of both decisions. What are the potential benefits of taking the new job, or what advantages come with staying in your current role? | Example:   * + - New job: Exciting new challenges, skill development, and potential career acceleration.     - Current job: Job security, strong professional network, and familiarity. |  |
| Green hat (Creativity and new ideas): | |  |
| Brainstorm creative ways to make the decision easier. Could you negotiate with your current employer for a raise or promotion? Could you take the new job on a trial basis? Are there alternative career paths you haven’t yet considered? | Example:   * + - Could you work part-time or freelance in the new industry before fully committing to a switch? |  |
| Blue hat (Process control and next steps): | |  |
| Summarize your thoughts and conclusions. What is your overall impression after considering each hat? What is your next step, and how will you approach the decision-making process? | Example:   * + - After weighing the pros and cons, you might decide to seek more information about the new company’s long-term prospects or discuss your concerns with a mentor. |  |

***By using the Six thinking hats, you’ll gain a balanced, multi-dimensional perspective on whether switching careers is the right decision for you. This method ensures you consider the emotional, logical, and creative aspects before making a choice.***