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Potential Development

"A Fundamental Facet of Creativity"





My teacher thought I was smarter than I was – so I was.

Six-year-old

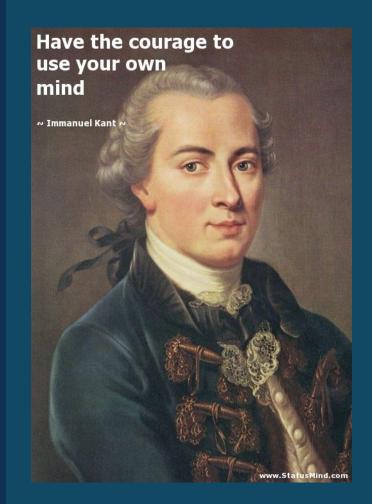
Creativity is a wide term, but it is a term that definitely relates not to one individual. It is a term that involves more than one person. For decades, there has been a debate about whether creativity is inborn or acquired and in the past ten years, more neoroscientists have started to prove that every child is creative and every adult can become creative at something even at later stages in his/her life.

After a long experience in the field of education, I realized first-hand that all students, whom I prefer to call learners, are creative in one way or another and as a mother I lived that too.

As we read in history of the previous centuries, there existed ages of deceit, tyranny, ignorance and hopeless illnesses and diseases. People were only followers of the elite classes and authorities. They were not allowed to even express a need to ask a question! And although there were individual great achievements, there was still a missing drive. That was why there was an insufficient demonstration of advancement. Immanuel Kant, the philosopher, started in the 18th century a movement that called for daring "to know" and having the courage to use one's own mind.

Kant's movement emerged in the pre-industrial revolution, which later culminated into the well-known French revolution. Poverty and inequality prevailed with an increasing number of labor hours in the industrialization age. A major change occurred. The concept of high-class only to be allowed to reach heights was replaced by the new concept that any individual, from lower and middle classes, can stand out with a "bright idea".

In 1855, UK came out with a new law of Civil Service Commission that inspired later America and Europe. There was a new practice, that of finding the right candidates or those who can perform better in their field. That's when the first rays of equality started to rise. There were definitely other approaches similar to that in the remaining parts of the world, and even earlier, but the main point is that people started to observe skills and capabilities and differentiate between outputs.



The 19th century passed with an enormous number of new inventions – telegraph, steam engine, locomotive, light bulb, telephone, and many others. People like Nikola Tesla, Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Samuel Morse, Dmitri Mendeleev, Louis Braille, Gottlieb Daimler, Henry Bessemer, and the list is long. Those people were many of the first people who demonstrated potential – who dared to know! Needless to say, there were thousand others, who did not invent machines; yet, they were making their lives and their surroundings happier and healthier because they were viewing the world in a different lens.

This paved the way into the 20 and the 21st century. Digitization emerged. The internet moved the world into a totally new dimension. More people were getting educated. With more reading, writing and communicating without barriers, the world has now a growing number of people who dare without doubt or hesitation to know, to think freely, and to speak- more potential!

People in the 21st century cannot yet be described as potentially developed in my opinion because there are still a big number of countries that cannot practice equality and freedom. Another reason is people's state of immobility and lack of interest in learning and growing. And these reasons are enough to keep full potential development unattained.



However, at this age of modernism, fast growth of the economy demands and the marketplace, there is great responsibility upon every educated person. Companies and institutions are seeking continuous competitiveness and growth and consequently more people are not given the choice, are rather urged, to dare to think and know – urged to work with potential.

Another factor that arises is that <u>some</u> individuals want to compete and be outstanding. Thus, another intrinsic urge to think and know – to explore potential .

IS & NOT

Potential	Potential
is about ···	is NOT about ···
Believing in oneself	Believing that nothing can be done without the others
Coming out with questions	Not daring to ask questions
Exploring and using one's	Blindly accepting the
mind	surrounding conditions
Courage to do the	Lack of courage to step out
unfamiliar	of the familiar
Sign of responsibility and	Sign of lack of responsibility
maturity	and immaturity
Pushing one's limits	Passively waiting for
	opportunities
Discovering hidden skills	Saying or believing that one
and talents	has no good skill or talent
Self-optimization	Finding excuses

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