GEC competency assessment

Learners



basic education

Department: Basic Education REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Welcome



Do you sometimes wonder what the purpose of school is? Is it to learn stuff? Is it to get good marks? Is it to make your teachers and parents happy with how you are doing?

Imagine if you could go to a school that took your views on what and how to learn seriously? Imagine if you felt you were seen as a person who had value to contribute to life? Imagine if you had the chance to decide for yourself what kind of education you would like to pursue as you got older?

Well, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) cares about you. You are a national asset. Without you there will be no future for the country. No-one to solve the problems that this world is facing. The DBE wants to be sure that you have the tools that you need to make the choices you want; that you have tools to participate in life after school as you want to – either as a successfully employed person, an entrepreneur or continue your education or all of these things.

So, to have these tools, you will need to be taught in such a way that is fun, engaging, meaningful, is socially interactive with your peers, and which gives you the opportunity to try and try and try again. Imagine coming to school to solve real life exciting problems. Imagine if the "exams" tested how good you were at communicating, being creative, being empathetic...

Well, you don't need to imagine this! This term you will be participating in a Playful Project-based Learning Project called 'I am and Entrepreneur'. By participating in this project, you will solve real-life problems, develop your communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking skills! These skills are sometimes called the '21st century skills' or 'skills for a changing world', but whatever you call them they are important skills to prepare you to be successful in life after school. This term you will be participating in a Playful Project-based Learning Project called 'I am an Entrepreneur'

21st century skills

These skills are important because, no matter what you do after school, whether you start your own business, work in a shop, become a doctor, everyone needs these skills to succeed. They are 'transferable'. These skills help you to manage in a world that is complex and uncertain. For example, we have all seen how the Covid-19 pandemic has changed our world, so we need to be able to collaborate with people and we need to think of creative solutions to the problems that we face. There is so much research that tells us that these 'soft skills' or '21st century skills' can be learnt and developed. Since these skills can be developed you can also measure your development in these skills.

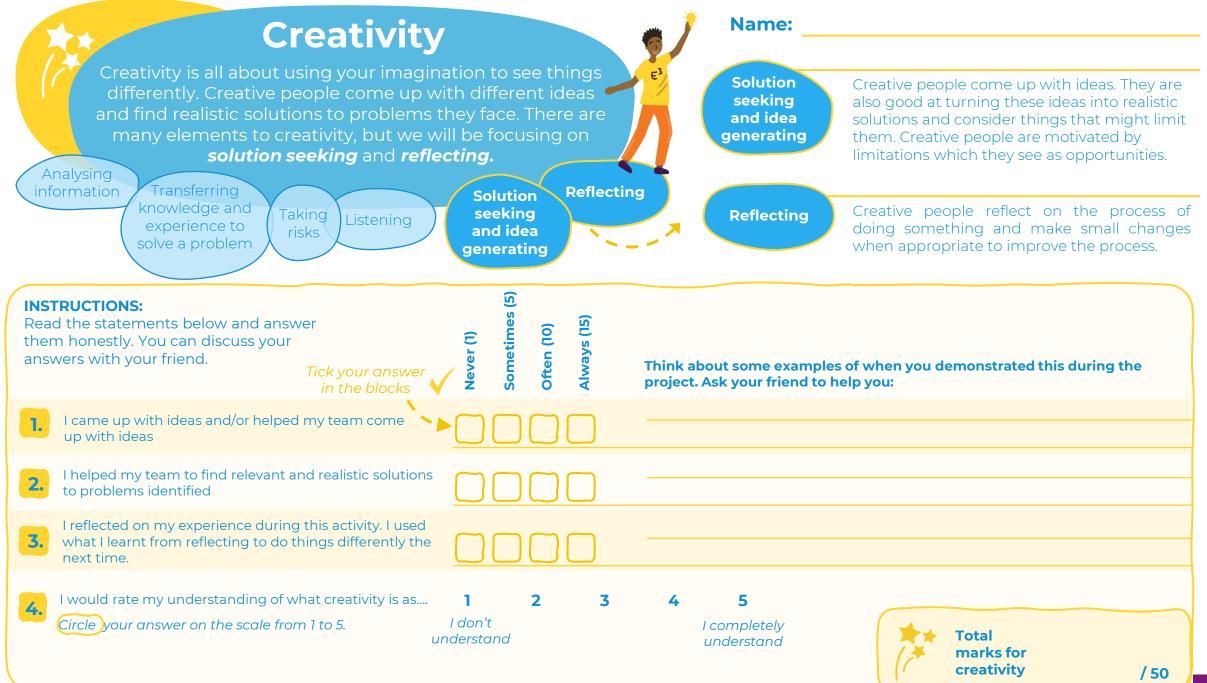
To help you get better and better at these 21st century skills please read on. In this document we have shared with you a very simple self-assessment tool that you can complete during the project either on your own or with friends. All you need to do is:

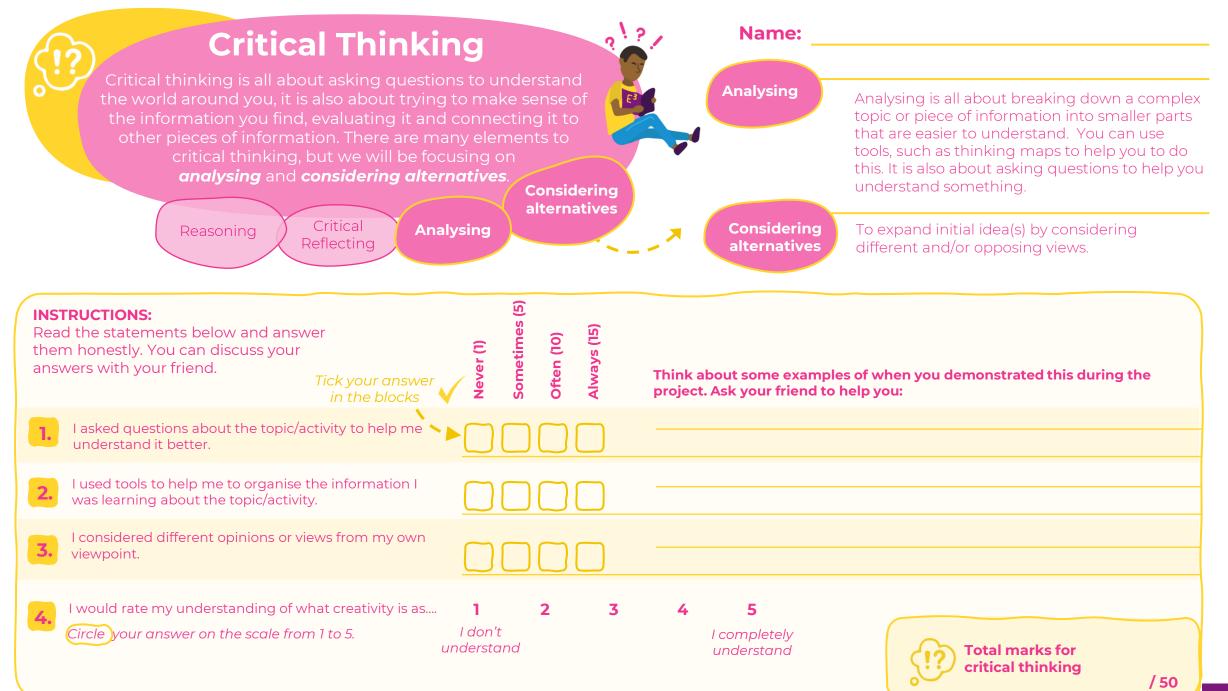
- 1. Read the following 16 questions (they are short)
- 2. Think about how often you do what is written in the question, is it Never, Something, Often or Almost Always, or Always?
- 3. Then think of an example to help show you doing this activity.

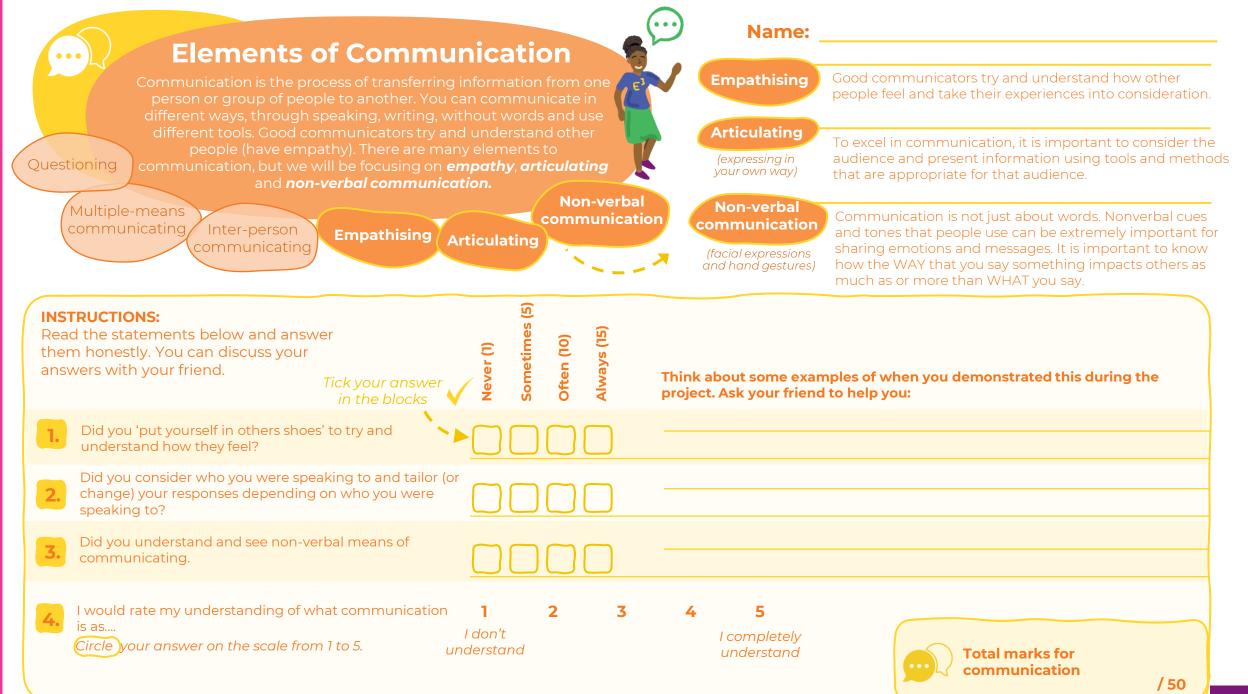
Remember, there are NO right or wrong answers here. Your honest thoughts about your experiences in the project are important and will help you to see how you can develop your skills even more in these areas. The first step to being able to develop your skills is to be able to SEE them. Once you can see them, you can then start thinking about how you can develop them! But let's take one step at a time and get started with this activity...

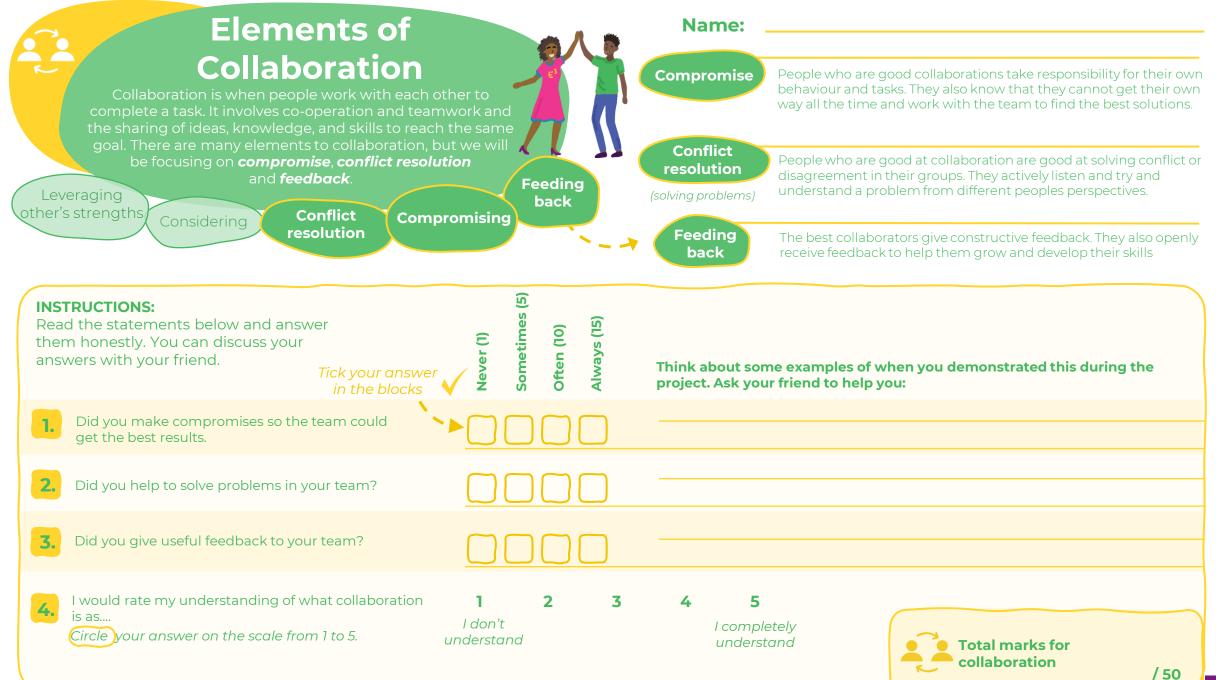


We hope you have fun on this exciting and meaningful learning journey!









My Reflections

