

Paper Planes

Introduction

This exercise uses the most common trick students play in class – flying paper planes! An ideal activity to conduct on your campus during E Week, ‘Paper Planes’ is a fun way to generate ideas together with a group of people and then to build them further.

Learning objective

To

- develop idea generation skills in the participants
- introduce opportunity evaluation in an intuitive manner

The Exercise

Instructions to Participants:

- Form groups of 10 (or 15) depending on the size of the audience. Ask them to sit in a circle.
- Announce the topic of ideation – example: Broad topic such as the E Week Theme – ‘Ideas for India’ or specifically opportunities in healthcare, energy, education, waste management, transportation and more.
- Alternatively, you could also post a big picture depicting issues that daunt India such as water, poverty, waste management, infrastructure etc, and ask them to think about ideas that could help solve these problems.
- Distribute 3-5 sheets of paper to all the participants.
- Ask the participants to write their idea on the sheet of paper and then fold it into an airplane and fly it to another participant in the group.
- The person who receives the paper plane has to write his/her idea on the same sheet and now fly it to another person in the group.
- To make it more interesting, you may give each participant only one minute to write his/her idea
- Continue writing and flying the planes until each piece of paper has several ideas.

Concluding the Exercise:

- Once the exercise is over, collect the paper planes and debrief the participants.
- Read the ideas and ask the groups to vote for the best.
- Discuss the most popular ideas and also ask them why they chose or like those ideas. That would help them think about how they have actually evaluated the ideas while selecting them. Once they give their reasons, you can point out to them, the basics of evaluating opportunities.
- Alternatively, instead of voting, you could put up all the ideas on the bulletin/white board and ask people to mark a star against the ideas they like. And then, you may discuss and debrief as mentioned above.

Time:

30 mins to 1 hour

Required Material:

- Sheets of paper and pen
- Enthusiastic instructor and participants

Note: This exercise is based on *Brain Writing* by Dave Gray | filed under: [Gamestorming wiki](http://www.gogamestorm.com/?cat=11), <http://www.gogamestorm.com/?cat=11>