EDWARD DE BONO'S SIX HATS OF THINKING

Teaching students to brainstorm, formulate arguments, and make sound decisions.

Who is Edward DeBono?

- International authority in the field of creative thinking, innovation, and the direct teaching of thinking as a skill.

- Rhodes Scholar at Oxford and has held faculty appointments at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London and Harvard.

- He is an M.D. with a Ph.D. in psychology and physiology.

- de Bono's medical background in biological information systems inspired and enabled him not only to teach thinking but also to design thinking methods.

- Methods are based on a fundamental understanding of how the brain handles information

- They are designed to be very simple and practical, and are utilized by people of all ages and professions, including Nobel Prize laureates and corporate executives at some of the world's largest organizations.

- Dr. de Bono has written more than 80 books that have been translated into over 40 languages. Titles include classics such as Six Thinking Hats, Lateral Thinking, Serious Creativity, Six Value Medals, and Simplicity.

Who Needs Six Thinking Hats?

Anyone who wants:

- A [meeting facilitation](#) tool that surfaces hidden agendas and achieves objectives without conflict

- A way to make sure that all sides of an issue are addressed

- A tool that works well in different cultures around the world

- A sharpened ability to think clearly, objectively, systematically, and creatively

de Bono's process

|						
What is the current information on the issue or problem?	How does everyone feel about the current situation, issue or problem?	What are the positive aspects of the current situation, issue or problem?	What are the negative aspects of the current situation, issue or problem?	What are new creative ideas or alternatives in solving the issue or problem?	How does everyone feel now that we have worked on the issue or problem?	What conclusions or summaries can we make in moving forward on the issue or problem?

Blue Hat is for norms and social control.

It is a review.
It is invoked as refers.
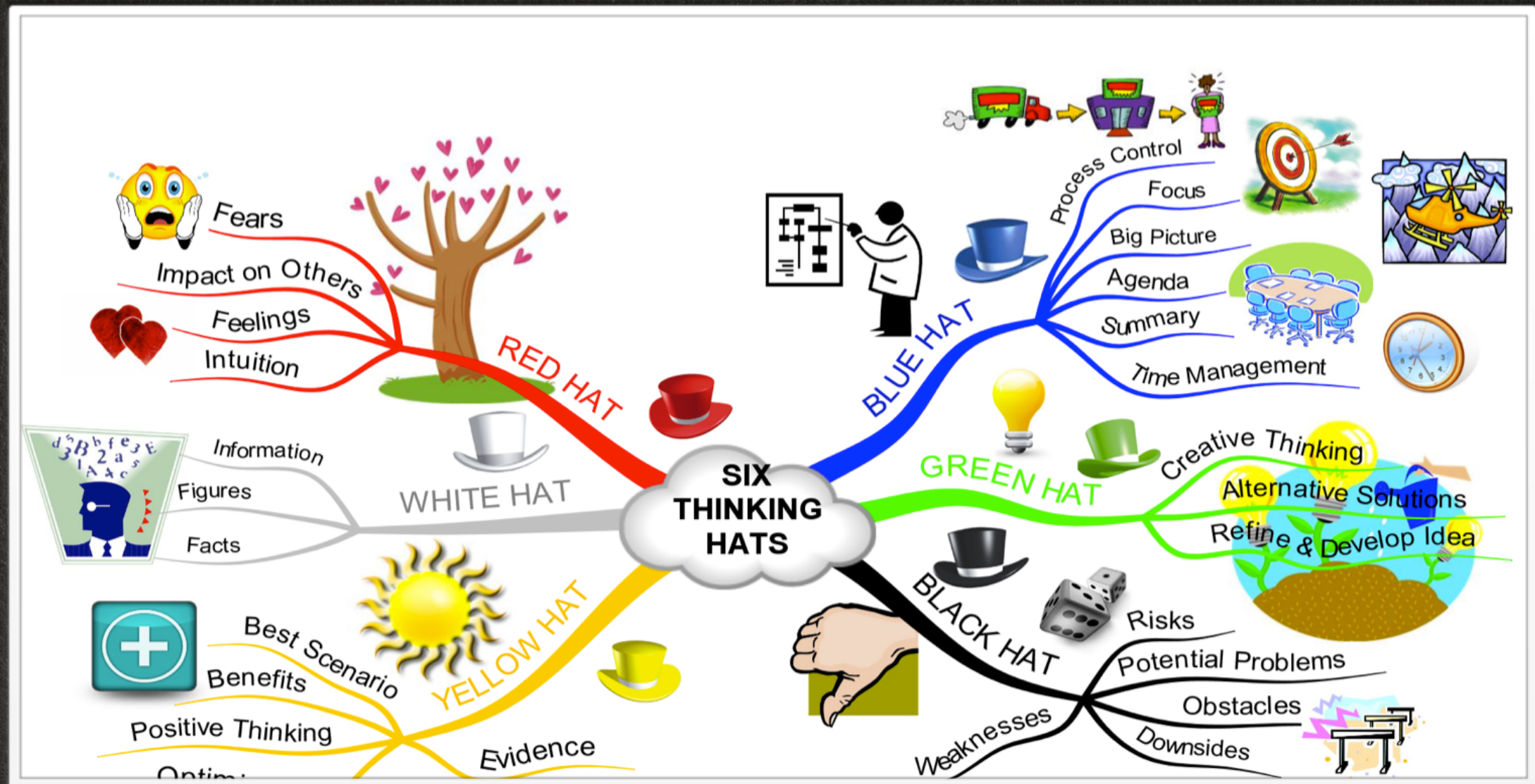
For the nonlinear thinkers

WHICH HAT DO YOU FAVOR?

(I like green!)

Classroom use

- whole class (best way to start)

- assign roles (great way to hear new voices and perspectives)

- assign groups (great way to teach debate team skills)

- individual responses wearing all hats (demonstrates independent mastery)

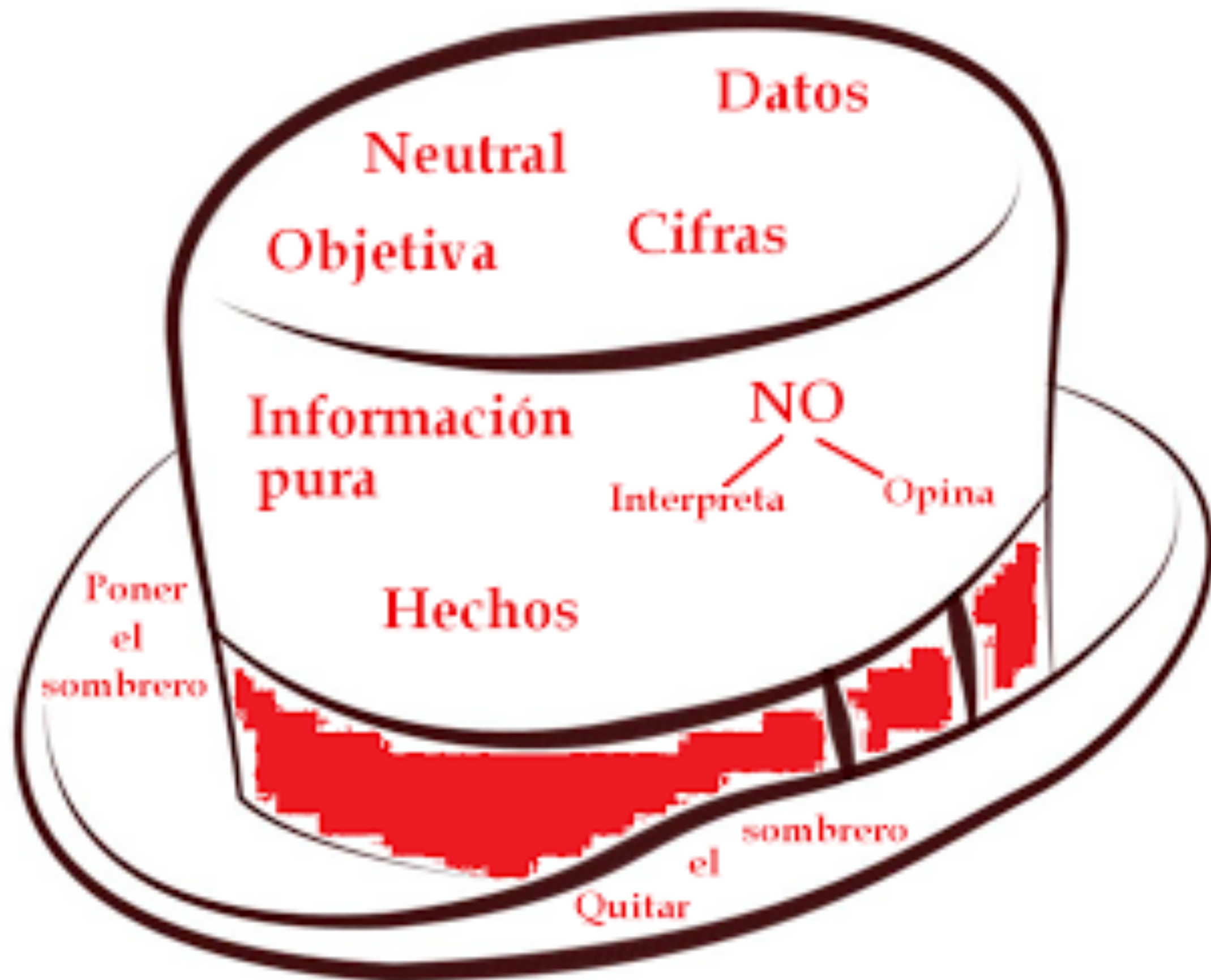- *great way to handle difficult topics*

LET'S TRY THE PROCESS!

Pose a question to begin.

White hat
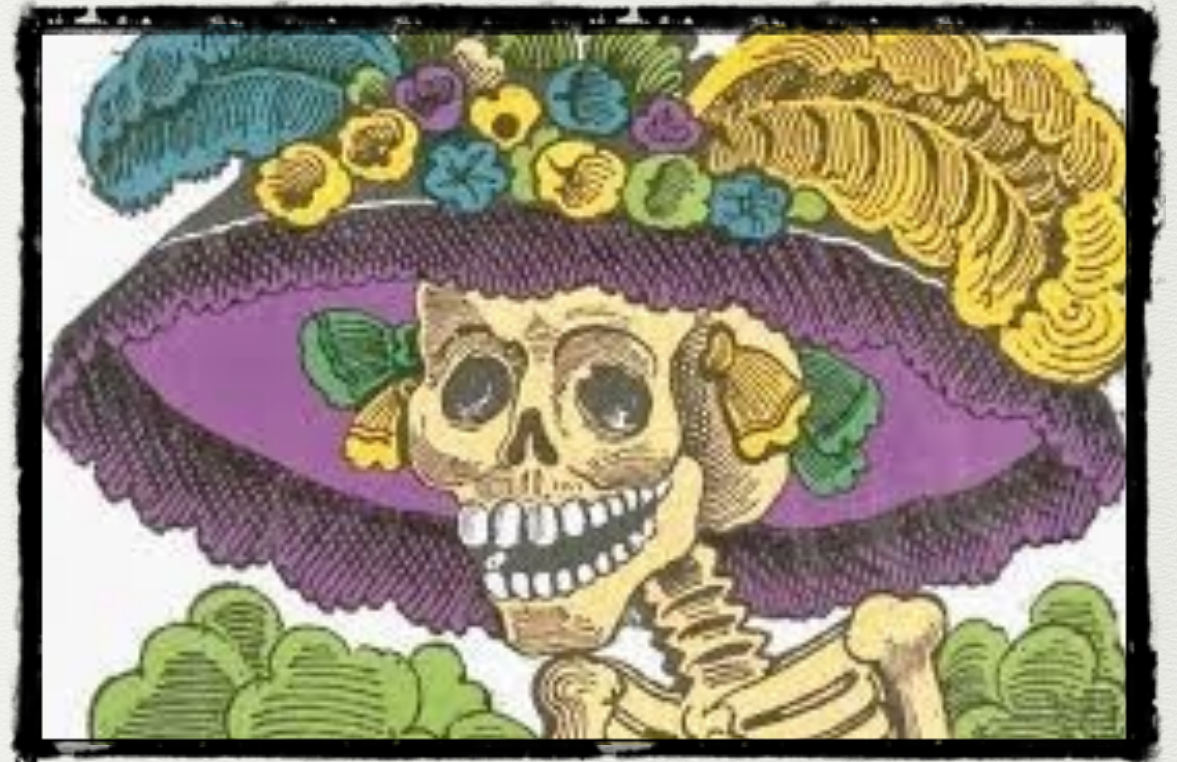
- information

- facts and figures
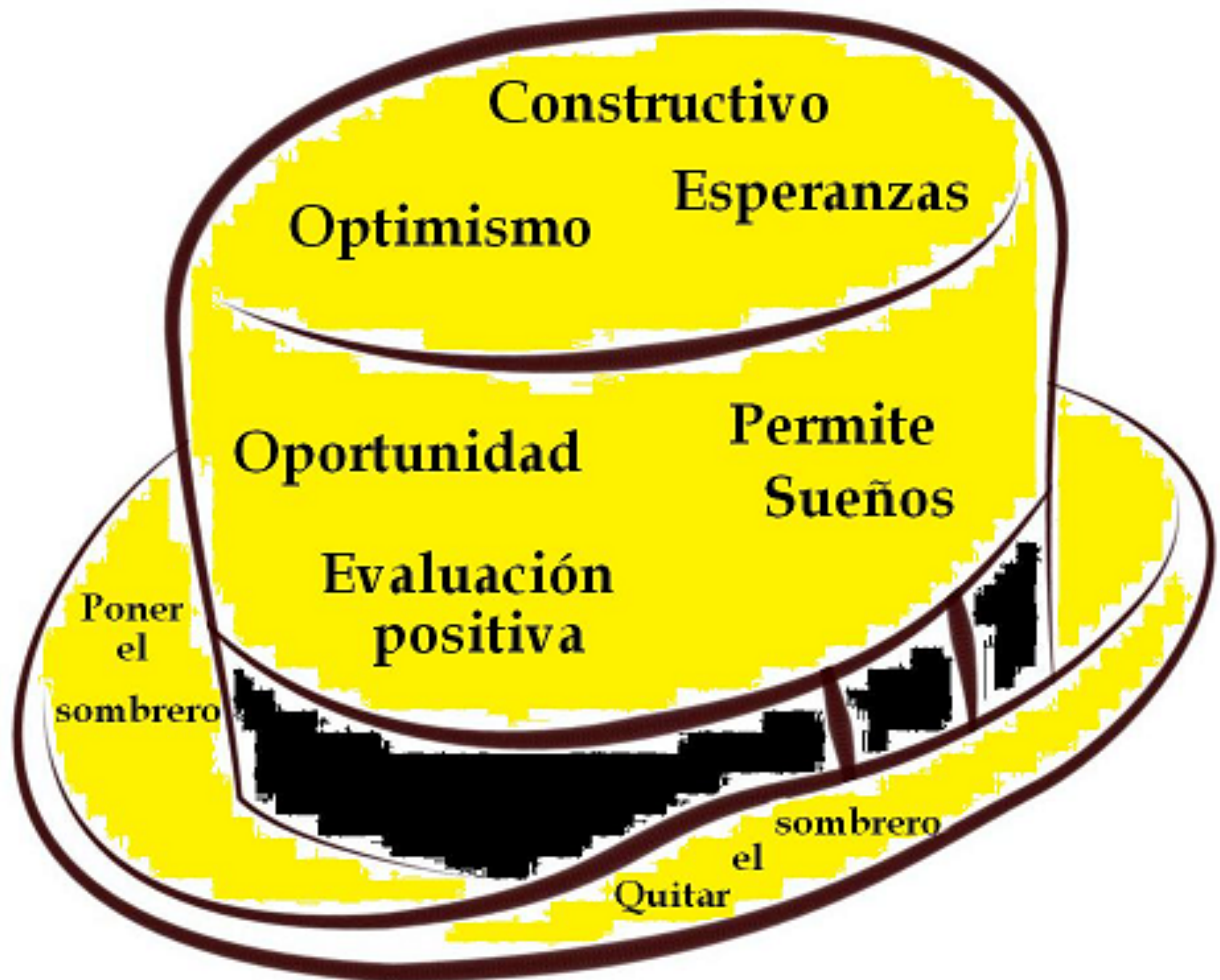
Red Hat

- feelings

- fears & passions

- intuitions

Yellow Hat

-
-
-
-

optimism
best scenarios
benefits
positive thinking

Black Hat

- risks
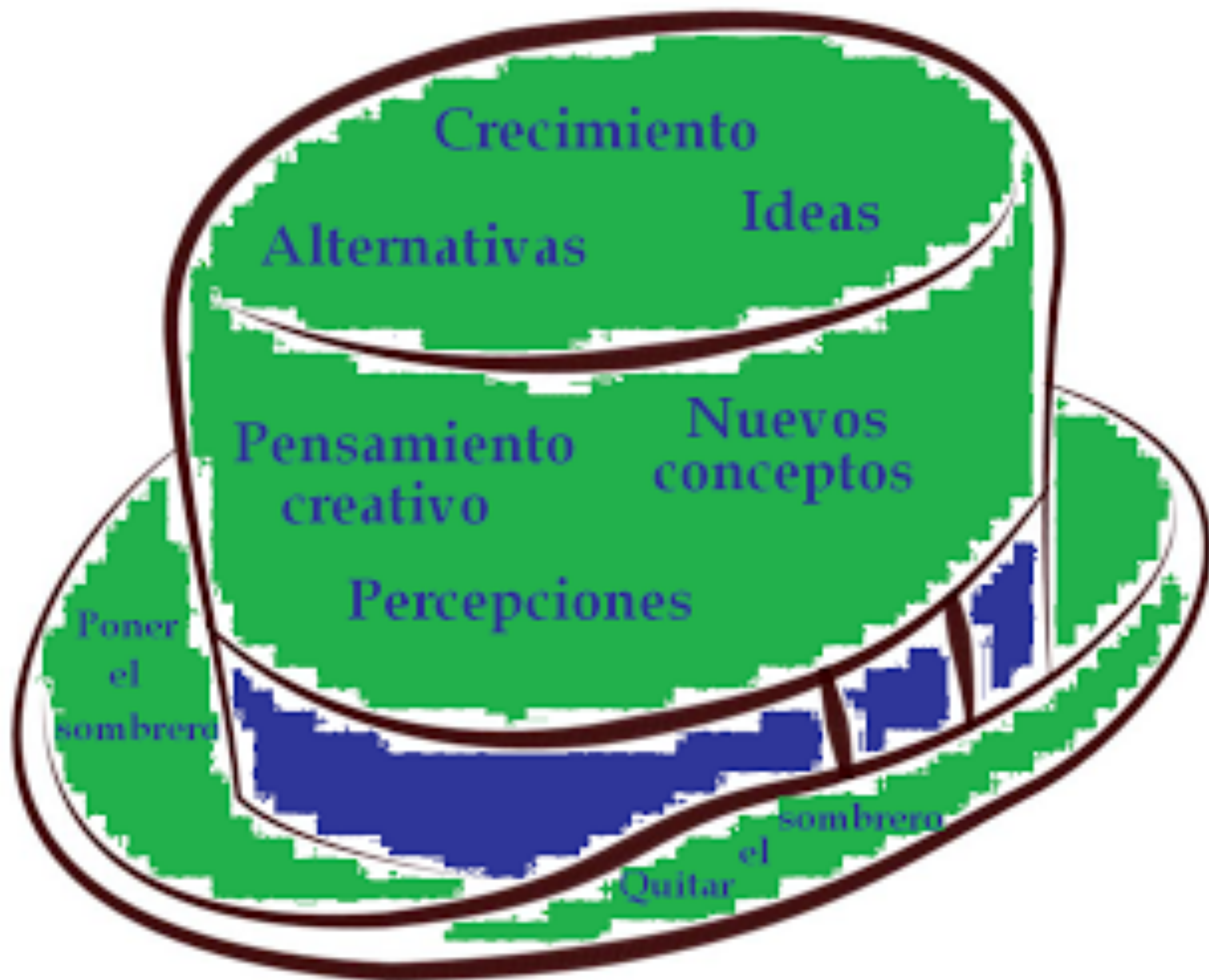
- obstacles

- weaknesses

- downside

- potential problems

Green Hat

- creative thinking
- alternative solutions
- define & redevelop ideas

We wear the Red Hat so well! Let's wear it one more time!

How are we feeling about
…the process?
….the outcome?

Blue Hat

- process control

- focus

- big idea

- process

- agenda

- summary

- time management

Director
de
orquesta

Organización

Visión
global

Conclusiones

Control

Coger
el
sombrero

sombrero

el

Quitar

Group Reflection

What conclusions or summaries can we make?

de Bono's process

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Now the trick to
being a great problem-solver is
knowing when to wear what hat!