

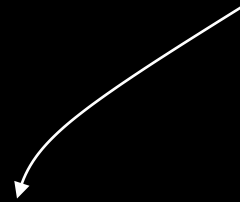
Creative Thinking in Games

Nick Hare

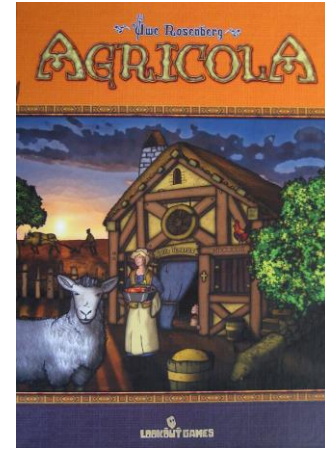
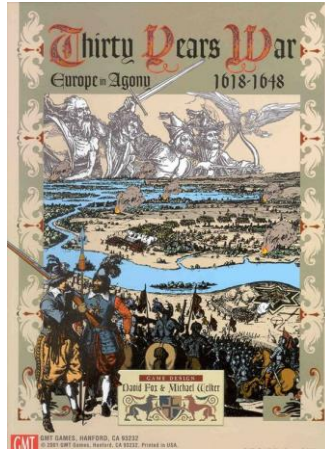
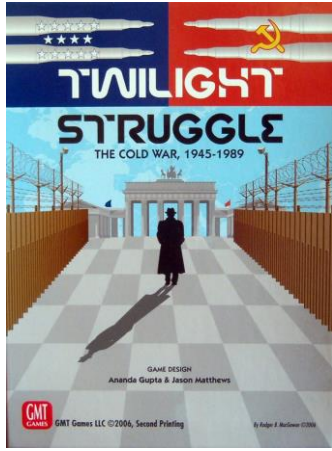
What is 'creative thinking'?

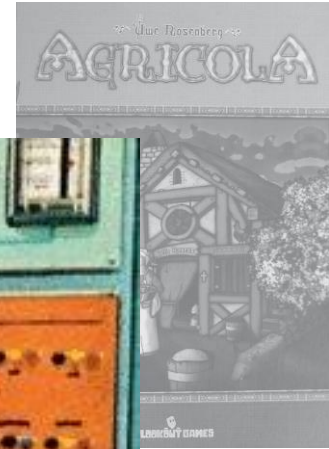
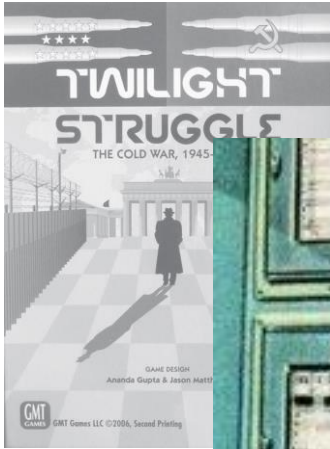


Why is it important?



What games encourage its use?





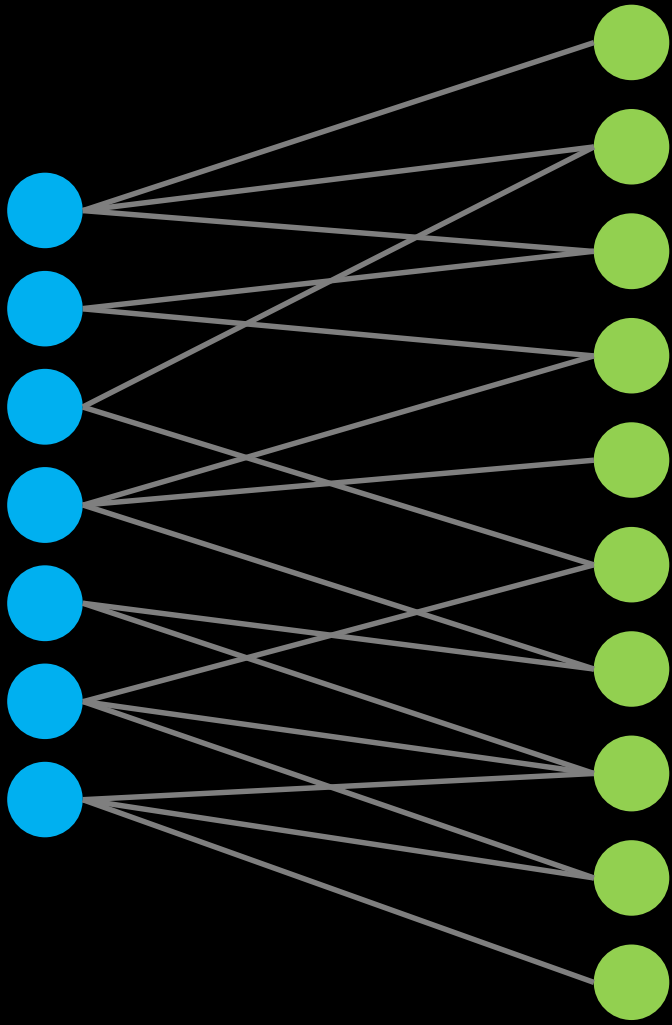
OPTIONS



OUTCOMES



OPTIONS

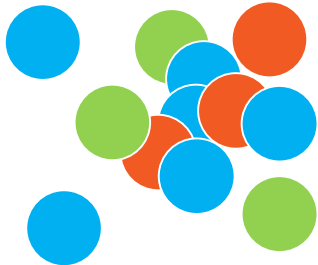


OUTCOMES



PROBABILITIES

Time, Information



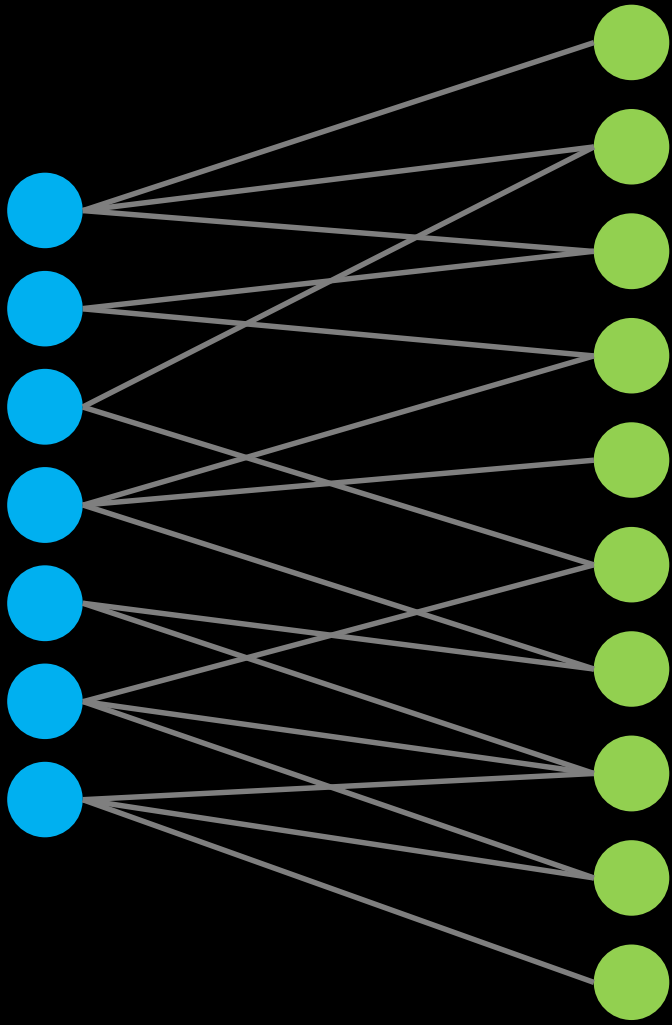
More use of creative thinking



More use of critical thinking

1. What's the smallest (positive) square number that's divisible by 20?
2. What's the biggest selling (music) single ever?
3. What are the only three US states without an 'A', 'I' or 'O' in their name?

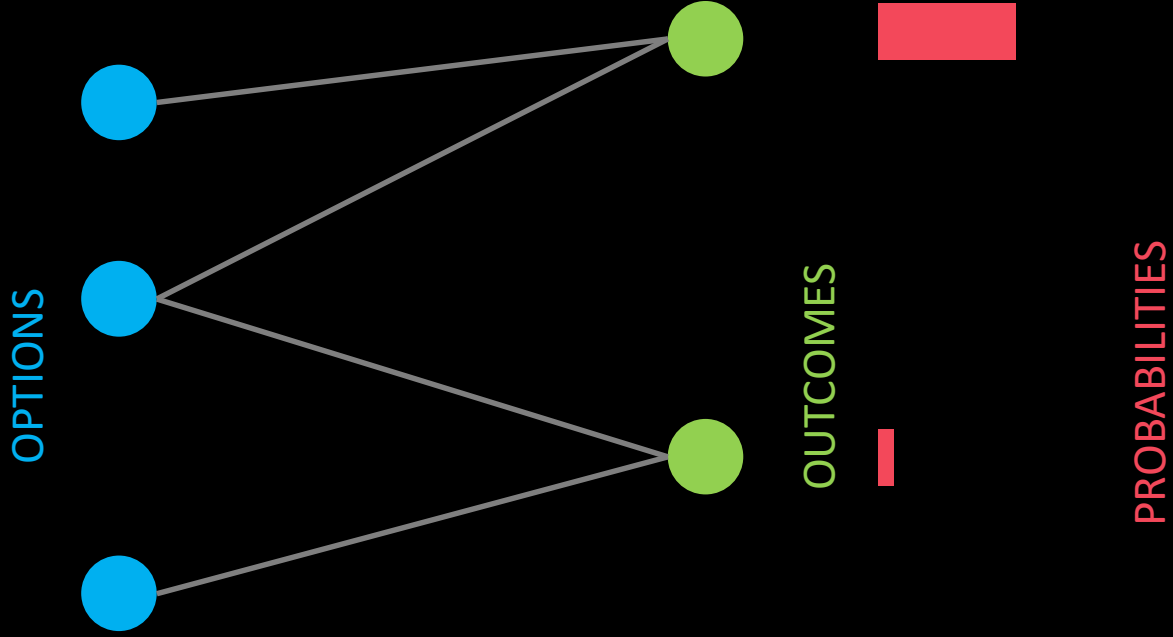
OPTIONS



OUTCOMES



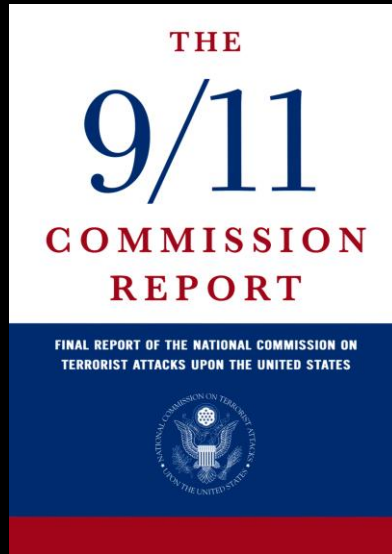
PROBABILITIES



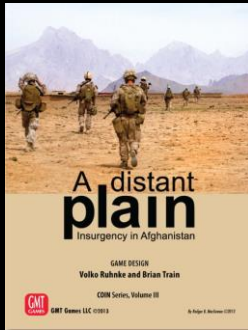
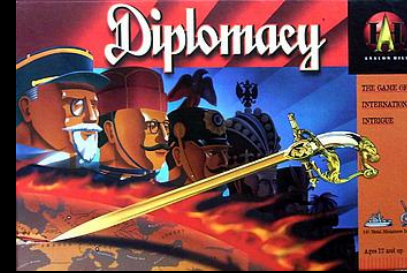
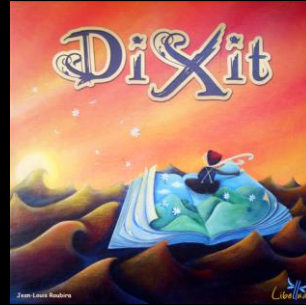
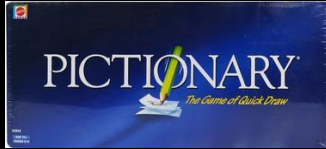
Fighting the Last War



Failure of Imagination



Which games demand creative thinking?



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS



MegagameMakers



Complexity
+
Legibility
?

1. Creative thinking is a core part of cognition
2. Games can reward creative thinking
3. Complexity is necessary to overload critical faculties...
4. ...but legibility compensates
5. You can't avoid theme fade but you can take it into account

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3. What are the only three US states without an 'A', 'I' or 'O' in their name?

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New Jersey, Tennessee, Kentucky