

# Pro/pro and Pro/cons chart



Module IV



Course 3



T1



L1

## Activity

- **Short Description:** Integrative Thinking takes note of the different visions and perspectives people, believing that these differences represent an enrichment of thought and can contribute to achieving better innovation. Pro/Pro and Pro/Cons charts are tools to promote integrative thinking in a class.
- **Methodology:** critical thinking process with post-its
- **Duration:** 1 hours
- **Difficulty (high - medium - low):** low
- **Individual / Team:** Teams 5-10
- **Classroom / House:** Classroom
- **What do we need to do this activity?**
  - Flipchart
  - Internet Connection
  - Paper, pen, markers, post-its

## Description:

Integrative Thinking takes note of the different visions and perspectives of others, believing that these differences represent an enrichment of thought and can contribute to achieving better innovation.

A pros and cons list is a quick and easy decision-making tool. Pros are arguments FOR taking a particular path. Cons are arguments AGAINST. Once you develop a list detailing both sides of the argument you can make more sensible,



informed decisions. To make the technique more objective, especially for complex decisions, you can rate each argument against one or more factors to create a weighted list to search for the best solution

On the other hand, the Pro/pro chart is an integrative thinking tool. It offers some good examples of how students can learn to think flexibly, suspending negative judgments. In a Pro/pro chart the group is led to reflect only on the positive aspects of two different ideas or of two opposing opinions. Instead of deciding between two choices, this tool helps students identify positive traits of different points of view and, possibly, create a third option by combining the good qualities of both.

## Instructions

The teacher can start with the question of the pros and cons of using critical thinking in the process of designing multimedia solutions to make aware some problem of cultural heritage in their region, for example, how to preserve the history of the cultural elements or how to respond to the needs of promotion of a cultural capital city.

Pro/Pro and Pros/cons charts could be useful to put in common causes, consequences to define the statement to be solved.

1. STEP 1: Presentation of the challenge and time schedule
2. STEP 2: Individual reflexion 5'
3. STEP 3: Brainstorming of ideas in group 30'
4. STEP 4: Achieving a common point of view 10'
5. STEP 5: Panel session and conclusions 45'

At the panel discussion session the teacher will ask students to explain their views and ideas on the subject and negotiate on whether they agree or not. The main objectives of this exercise is to provide students with the opportunity to generate their own new key ideas. Through this motivation process, the students will be encouraged to freely express and explain their ideas and judge the ideas of their classmates in order to reveal multiple aspects of the subject and enriching their knowledge.

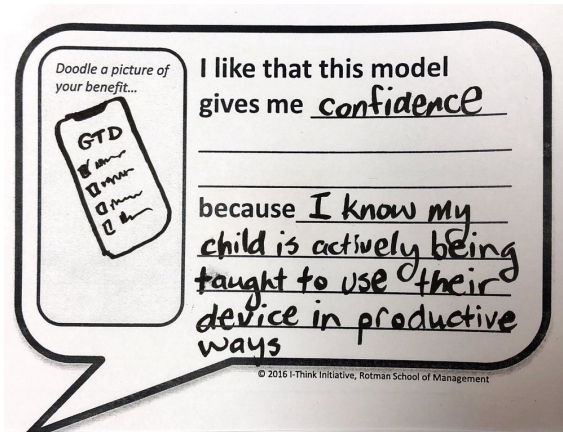
## Expected outcomes

- Clear, contrasted and based on facts opinion about an issue

## Illustration:

This is an example of a form in which motivations have been inserted regarding a positive aspect of the solution:





Pro/pro example

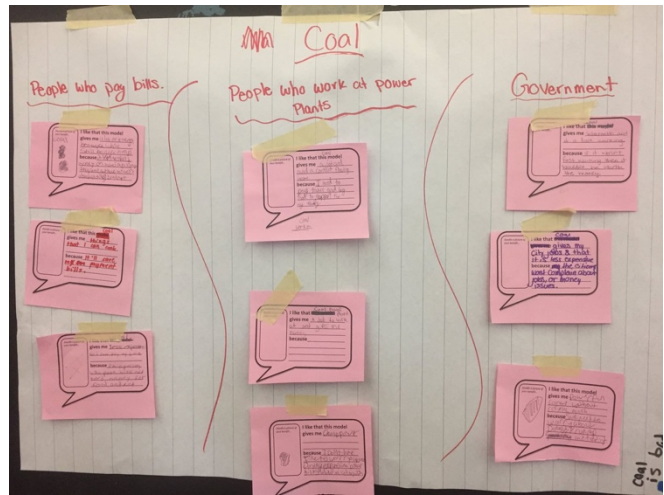


Image: <https://twitter.com/cgraveshwdsb/status/837419028536754176>

This is an example of a form in which thinking process has been developed contrasting ideas:

### Pros and Cons List Template

<https://www.vertex42.com/ExcelTemplates/pros-and-cons-list.html>



© 2017 Vertex42 LLC

PROS	56	49	CONS
List	Value (0-10)	Value (0-10)	List
Location	3	4	Distance from Family
New House	5	5	Miss Friends
Schools	8	6	Traffic
Grocery Store Access	2	5	Hassles
Church	7	8	Crime Rate
Mall	4	3	Move Expense
Theater Access	6	2	More Urban
More Activities	3	6	Unknown Problems
Better Job	7	3	Living Expense Higher
Change of Scene	2	2	Stress
Beach Access	4	5	Change Schools
Change Schools	5		

Example of a pro/cons list template

Image: <https://www.vertex42.com/ExcelTemplates/pros-and-cons-list.html>

This activity can be used in other (module, course, topic, lesson):

- Course IV. Critical thinking / L1: What is critical thinking



## REFERENCES:

- Roger L. Martin “Winning through integrative thinking”, Harvard Business School Press, 2009
- 2.2.6. Pro/Pro (partner UNILINK) in R5.1. Creativity and Soft skills for XXI Century (Student to Practice Report)
- 2.2.9. Pro/Cons (partner MEUS) in R5.1. Creativity and Soft skills for XXI Century (Student to Practice Report)

