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Learning. Doing. Leading.

(FUN) FLO FRIDAY - **Choose your own** **Adventure**

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Since time immemorial, the səliiwətaʔt təməx^w (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh-ulh Temíxw (Squamish), x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), WSÁNEĆ (Saanich), and the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations of the Lək^wəŋən (Lekwungen) Peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where we are grateful to live, work, and play. We are committed to building relationships with the first peoples here, based in honour and respect, and we thank them for their hospitality.

CHOICE #1:

A: PARTICIPATE.

B: LISTEN.



AGENDA

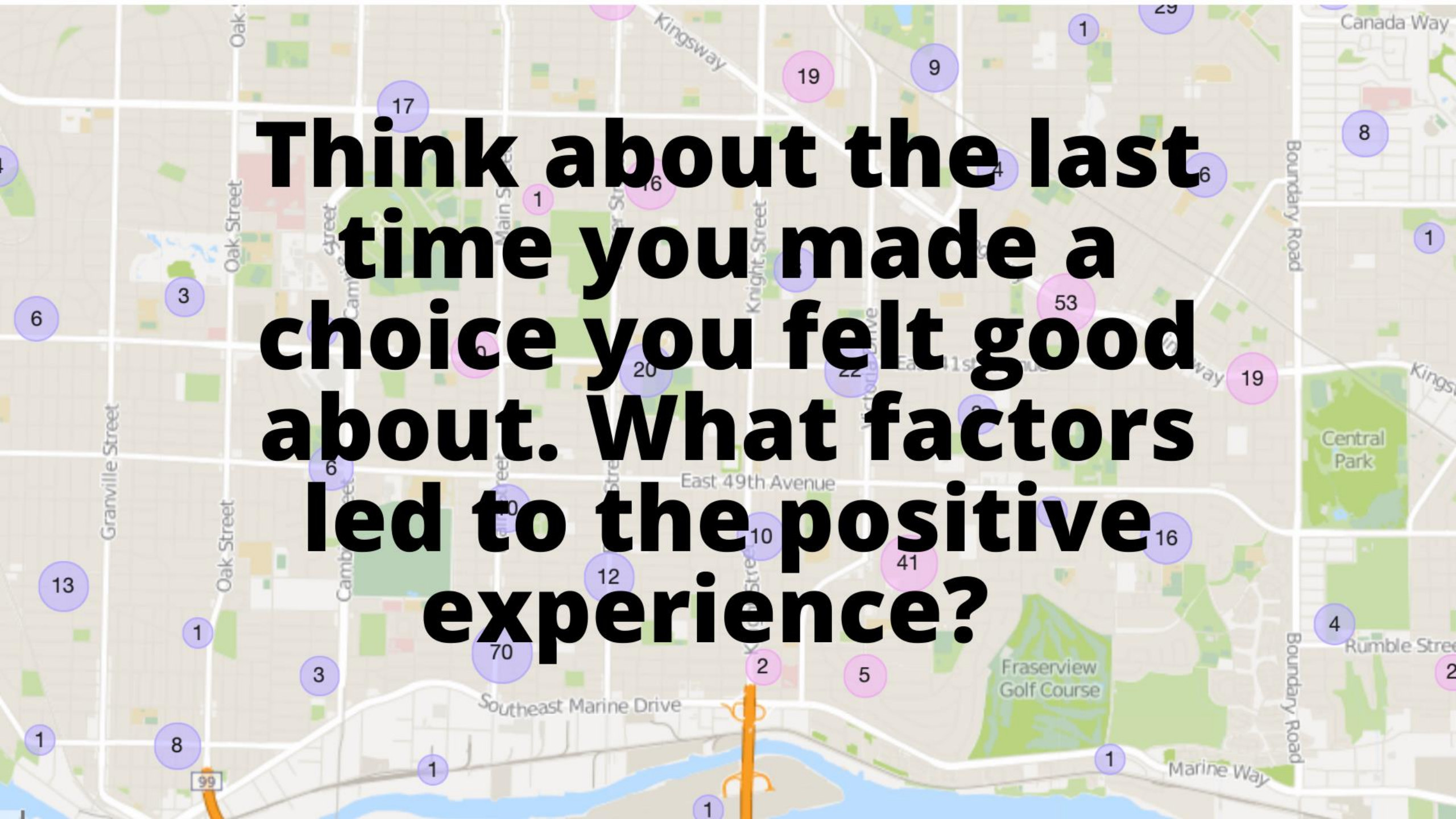
11 - 11:15: THOUGHTS ABOUT CHOICE

11:15 - 11:30: CHOICE 1

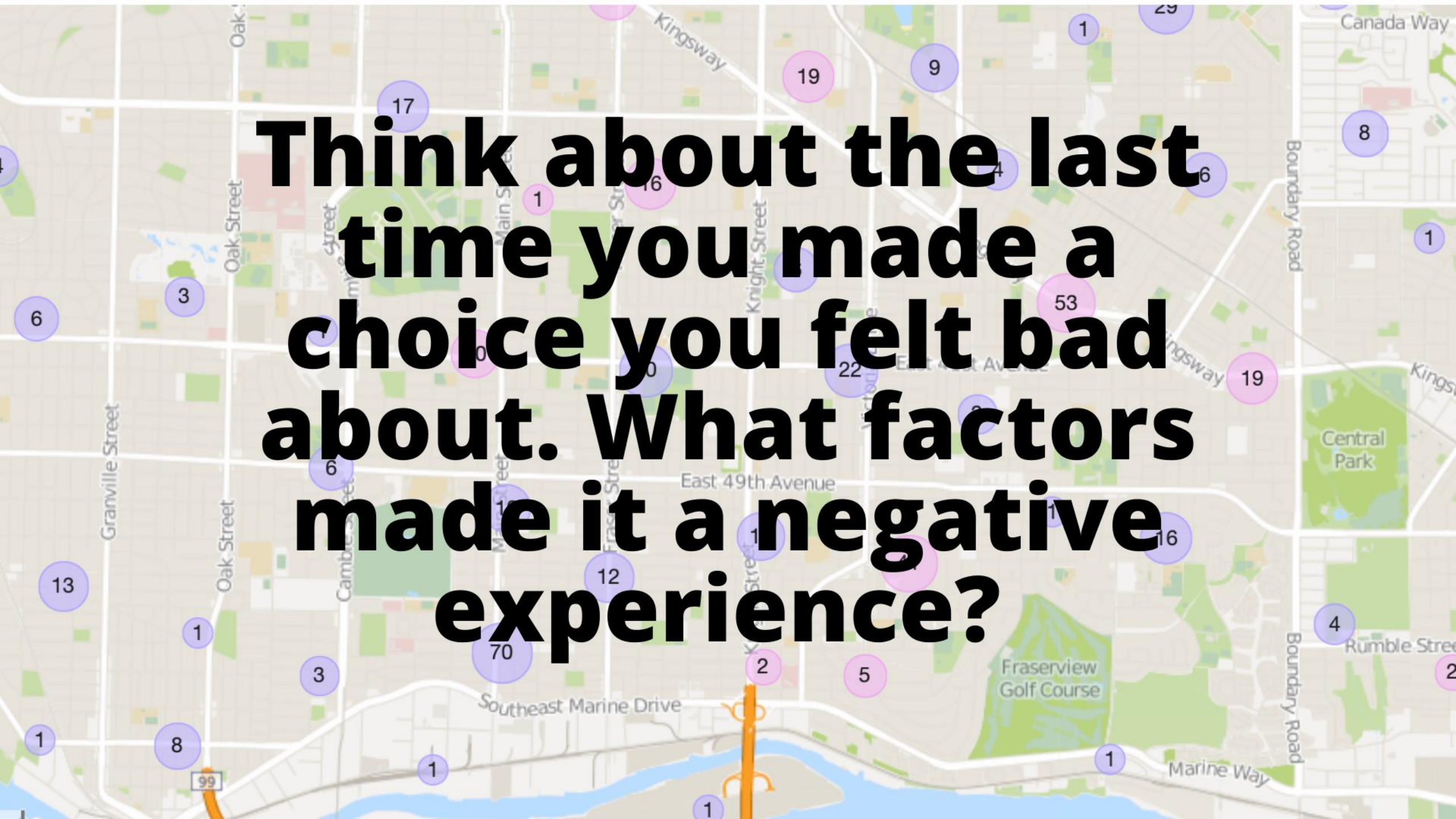
11:30 - 11:45 CHOICE 2

11:45 - NOON: QUESTIONS





Think about the last time you made a choice you felt good about. What factors led to the positive experience?

A map of a city area with a grid of streets and several circular markers containing numbers. The text is overlaid on the map. The map shows streets like Oak Street, Granville Street, Kingsway, and Marine Way. There are also landmarks like Central Park and Fraserview Golf Course. The numbers in the circles range from 1 to 70. The text is in a large, bold, black font.

Think about the last time you made a choice you felt bad about. What factors made it a negative experience?

FEATURES OF A GOOD CHOICE

Meaningful

Manageable

Supported

Equal

Equitable

Accessible

Engaging

Sustainable for instructor



WHO DOES THE CHOICE BENEFIT?
WHO DOES THE CHOICE LEAVE OUT?
CAN STUDENTS REFUSE TO CHOOSE?



What's my stress level?

Do I trust you?

Do I have the confidence to choose?

Do I like these options?

Am I used to teachers giving me choice?



Do I know how to get started?

What if I make the wrong choice?

Do the choices meet my accessibility needs?

Does it feel like a real choice?

Planning for choice in your course is not like throwing the doors open to 37 types of yogurt.

Planning for choice in your course is more like deciding between **vanilla or blueberry**.

Dr. Seanna Takacs



WAYS TO ADD CHOICE

Format

Topic

Role

Assignments

Schedule

Policies

Due Dates

Openness

Feedback

MENU

1. Choice formats
2. Supporting choice
3. What about failure?
4. Co-designing with students
5. The Choose Your Own Adventure Syllabus
6. How I've messed this up in the past!
7. How do I grade these?
8. Reducing instructor workload.
9. Crowdsourcing choice
10. Barriers to choice

CHOICE FORMATS

CYOA

A/B

Random

Menu

Contract

Group Choice

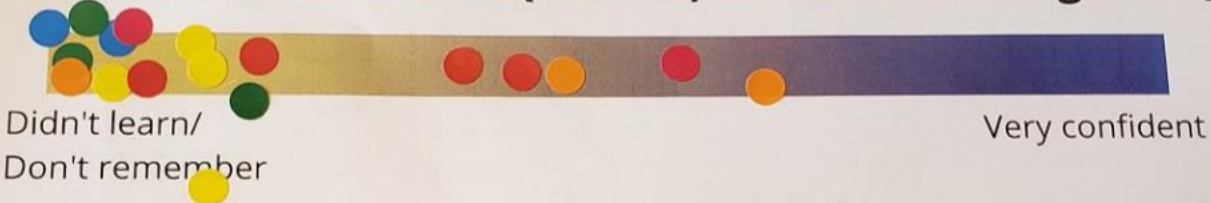
Co-Designing

Point System

Ranked

CO-DESIGNING

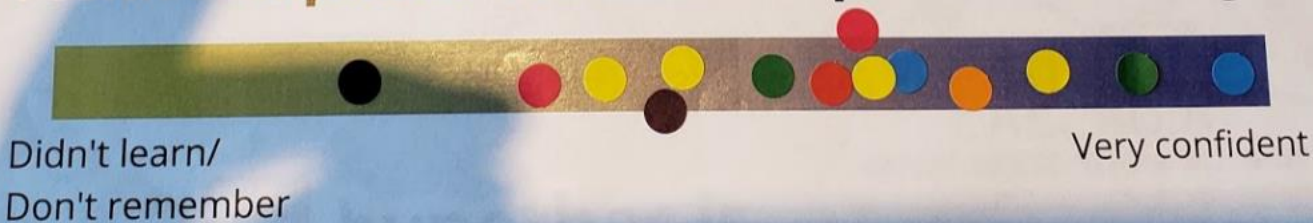
Communication models (CMAPP, rhetorical triangle etc).



Analyzing an audience and using that information to create an effective message



Positive emphasis/ You attitude/ positive messages



What communication topics do you want to know more about? What communication questions do you have?

- How to make videos/vlogs ✓✓
 - How fake news travels ✓
 - How something goes viral (algorithms) ✓✓
 - ✓ - How to make an effective argument ✓✓
 - ✓ - Targetting audience ✓✓
 - Deciphering sources + discovering intent ✓✓
 - Using communication effectively to build a personal "brand" ✓✓
 - professional keywords for LinkedIn / (SEO) how to make an effective profile ✓✓
 - ✓ - How to ^{professionally} reach out to a potential employer ✓✓
 - turn around a bad situation to an employee ✓✓
- How to overcome information overload? ✓

What's your dream communications assignment?

- Oral presentation ✓✓
 - GRADED FOR CASUAL CONVERSATION ✓✓
 - ~~How~~ dealing with fake news ✓✓
 - use of social media ✓✓✓✓
 - communicating bad news ✓✓
 - Writing a business plan ✓
 - Scientific research (learn in depth about something) ✓
 - the sociology / psychology behind why communication is effective to different demographics ✓✓
 - The office videos as examples ✓✓✓
 - effective communication in Marketing ✓
- Podcast ✓
Writing social media for commercial purposes ✓
YouTube Videos ✓
The formation of communication ✓

Group 3

Blogging/peer workshop 10%

Blogging/Blog posts 15%

Blogging/proposal 10%

Terms of service Rewrite 10%

Participation 20%

Storytelling 15%

Blogging or podcast project 20%

100%



Jennifer Hardwick @Jen_Hardwick · May 17



1) Labour and cognitive load — it means more planning and prep, but it also requires that I hold more information in my brain as I guide students through different possibilities (often simultaneously).



Jennifer Hardwick @Jen_Hardwick · May 17



2) Resources. There are so many internal and external resources on essay writing, for example. But there aren't Learning Centre workshops on making videos or developing a learning resource, so it means that students often have less support if they take "non-traditional" choices.



Jennifer Hardwick @Jen_Hardwick · May 17



3) An extension of resources, but more specific (and something that has taken on new importance this year): technological infrastructure. The more choices there are, the harder it is to make the different pathways apparent via the LMS and to manage submissions/feedback etc.





Lilach Marom @l_marom · May 18



Replying to [@Arley_McNeney](#) and [@BCcampus](#)

It's like this study on kids giving them 1 candy now or 3 if they can wait a few hours. Choice making is something that demands reflection & deep thinking, its not only the act of choosing it demands a different scaffolding of the course.



Seanna Takacs, PhD @DoctorDood · 4h



Huge cultural pieces on choice too!





David Buck @dbuckedu · May 18



Replying to [@Arley_McNeney](#) and [@BCcampus](#)

Not so much a barrier, more of a concern that Ss don't end up *oppressed by choice* in the sense that they feel pressured to choose options that best relate to a traditional (e.g., White, privileged, or in the oppressive dominant discourse) approach to the learning activity.



barefootwriter, MA @bfwriter · May 18



pressure, or fear? because I've seen this as a peer and as a researcher, and it's usually more of a comfort zone thing. "just let me keep my head down, do the usual thing, and I'll know what to do and I'll be fine."



David Buck @dbuckedu · May 18



Right, perhaps a fear that their choice fits the instructor's perception of *quality* or *high standards*. Perhaps the keeping one's head down is the result of unjust, inequitable grading approaches that punish a student's risk taking. So the safest option is no sudden movements!





barefootwriter, MA @bfwriter · May 18



not even unjust practices! simply having been in heavily controlling learning environments for so long conditions students to prefer control, even when offered a wide open pasture. it takes time to recondition them to know how to handle/prefer autonomy.

selfdeterminationtheory.org/general-causal...



barefootwriter, MA @bfwriter · May 18



that's why it's good to introduce choice -- and creative, outside the usual box choices -- with low/no stakes at first, so students can get used to it without risking too much.



Thank you everyone!



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