## What's something **new** you've learned in the past two days?

Write in the chat BUT don't press enter right away 💬



Lavinia Mehedințu, Co-Founder & Learning Architect at Offbeat

## Looking into the mirror. Reflection as a learning method. ctrl > cltr festival

## Last year I became an entrepreneur and threw myself into "hustling".





# I was working 16 - 18 hours a day. Having meetings. Keeping busy.





# Despite all my hard work, I reached the end of 2022 feeling lost and confused.



## It took a lot for me to admit I was deep into burnout.



## So I was forced to take a step back and do less, which gave me more time for reflection.





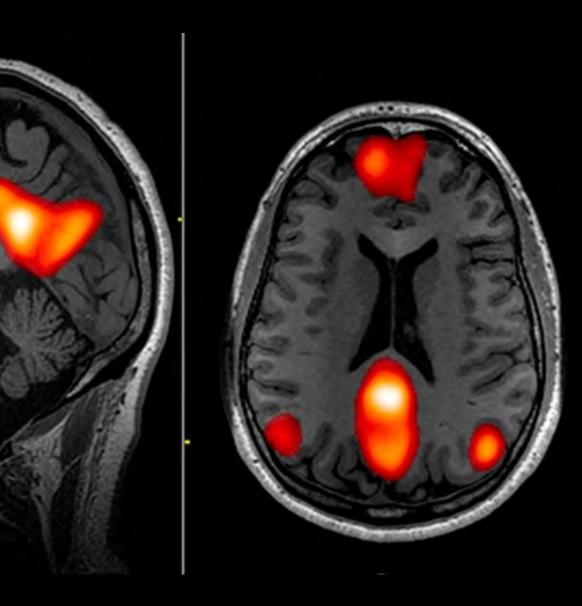
# But I always heard that "not keeping busy" means "not being productive".



## **Reflection** What happens in our brain?



# The Default Network Moce





The Default Network Mode

1

# Our brain does not stop functioning when we're not focusing on specific tasks.

The Default Network Mode

## Our brain does not stop functioning when we're not focusing on specific tasks.

Central Executive Network AND Salience Network

## fMRI imaging shows that during "rest" time, another network of brain regions are activated - The Default Network Mode.

## fMRI imaging shows that during "rest" time, another network of brain regions are activated - The Default Network Mode.



seems to be working like a toggle button

OFF

When the DMN is activated, it facilitates creativity, memory consolidation, and introspective thinking, which help deepen understanding and foster personal growth.

We process the information through active focus, by "doing"

We receive external stimuli

We improve the outcome of our work/ learning

Summary

We process the information through "down-time", by reflecting

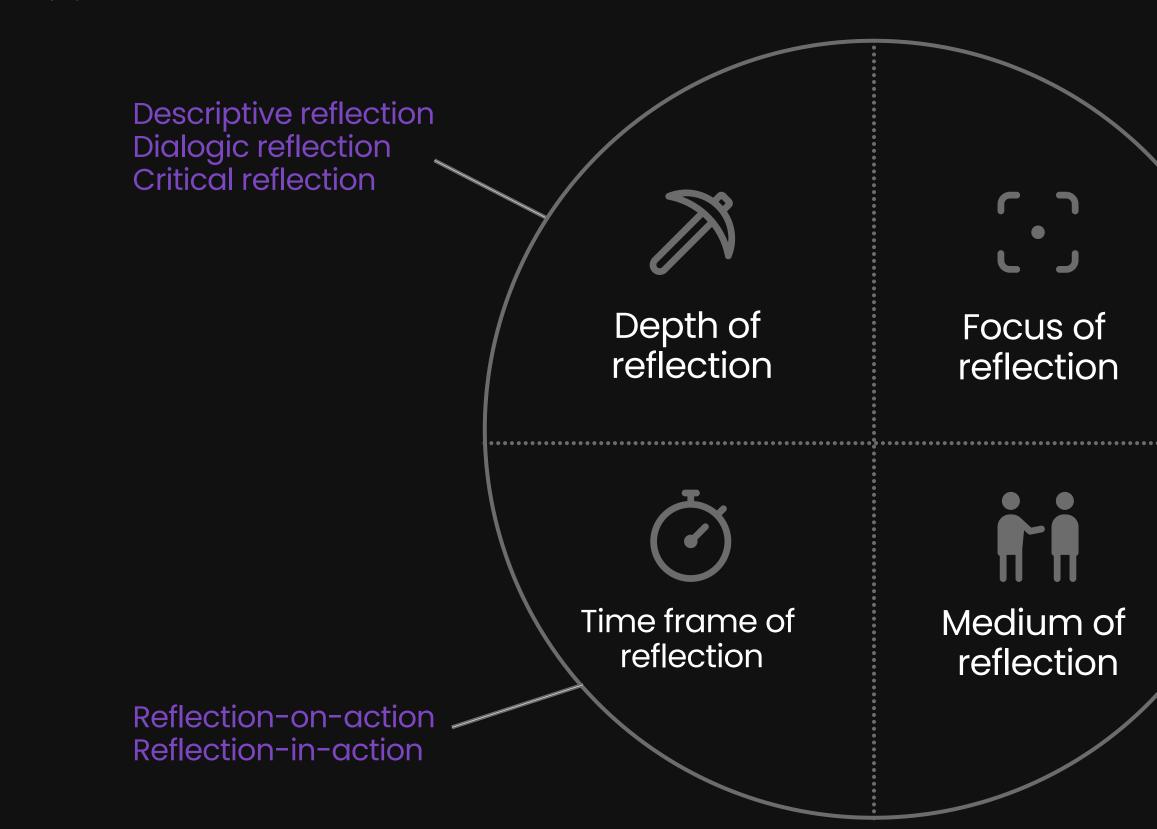
We improve the outcome of our work/ learning **x2** 

## Reflection How can we adopt it in L&D?



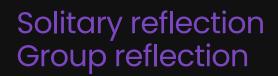


### Types of reflection



**Try Pitch** 





## **Reflection Time: Part 2**

How could you apply one of the above-mentioned types of reflection into your L&D programs or even into your wider organization?

## Types of reflection

### **Depth of** reflection

- Descriptive reflection what happened
- Dialogic reflection -• why did it happen
- Critical reflection -• how it happened (questioning assumptions, beliefs, power dynamics, of ethical considerations)

### Time frame of reflection

- Reflection-on-action after the event
- Reflection-in-action
  - during the event

### **Focus of** reflection

- Individual reflection your own thoughts and emotions
  - Interpersonal reflection - reflecting on interactions with others
- Org/ systemic reflection - on
  - broader

•

- organizational or
- systemic aspects

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### **Medium of** reflection

- Solitary reflection on your own
- Group reflection in groups and teams

### Real - world examples

#### 01

#### "Design Crits" sessions at Canva

These sessions involve teams presenting their work to colleagues, discussing design choices, and receiving constructive feedback.

Reflection-on-action Group reflection

#### 02

#### Blameless Retrospectives at GitLab

GitLab promotes reflection by implementing a "blameless retrospective" process after major projects or incidents. Employees are encouraged to analyze the events, identify areas for improvement, and propose solutions without pointing fingers.

Reflection-on-action Descriptive, dialogic, and critical reflection Org/ systemic reflection Group reflection

#### 03

## Free access to Headspace from Headspace

Headspaces encourages reflection by offering its employees free access to its app and providing dedicated spaces for meditation and relaxation.

Individual reflection Solitary reflection

### Real - world examples

#### 04

#### Continuous sense-making at Offbeat

At Offbeat we try to integrate sense-making parts into every session we have, no matter how practical or passive the learning experience is.

#### 05

#### Reflection in Airbnb's Data University

Airbnb's "Data University" program includes a reflective component, where participants document their learnings and insights gained during the program.

Reflection-on-action Descriptive, dialogic, and critical reflection Individual reflection Solitary reflection Individual reflection Solitary reflection

**Try Pitch** 

#### 06

#### Spotify's diverse Learning Circles

Spotify organizes "Learning Circles" for employees, which are small, cross-functional groups that meet regularly to share experiences, discuss challenges, and learn from one another.

Individual reflection Group reflection

## **Reflection Time: Part 3**

### What's something new you've learned about reflection today?

Write in the chat BUT don't press enter right away 💬



## "We acquire knowledge faster than we acquire wisdom"

– Isaac Asimov



## "We acquire knowledge faster than we acquire wisdom"

- Isaac Asimov

- William Bell, "Fringe" TV Show Character



### Key takeaways

#### 01

#### Our brain never sleeps

The DNM is active in state of rest and reflection and it facilitates creativity, introspective thinking, and memory consolidation. 02

#### Types of reflection

There are different types of reflection depending on depth, time, focus or medium. They can be used by themselves or in combinations.



### Time to throw questions at me 💥





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## SCAN ME

