

Read: Csikszentmihalyi, Mihaly. Creativity: The Psychology of Discovery and Invention. “Setting the Stage, Where is Creativity, and The Flow of Creativity”

Optional Read: <https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2017/03/aristotle-computer/518697/>

Optional Listen:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/revisionist-history/id1119389968?mt=2&i=1000373212804>

I definitely believe that creativity has a lot to do with innovation. I define innovation as a product, service, concept, or movement that is new and creates a change/an impact in the system we function in (eg. solving an issue, making lives easier). To create something that is new is the use of original ideas.

However, I do think that the reading doesn't address the fact that a big part of creating something that is innovative is the execution of the original idea. The end of the reading, in chapter 5 does elude to this in some small part. I wouldn't necessarily consider the “clarity of goals” creative, but an important aspect of making an innovation a reality.

I also think that the section about “how well one is doing” hasn't actually outlined a method in developing a way of measuring this. While there are different tactics per industry, there are general tips and tricks like the ones in this article:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikekappel/2017/03/08/6-ways-to-measure-small-business-success/#52b24f5818f4>

I previously have read about this author's belief on finding flow:

<https://positivepsychology.com/mihaly-csikszentmihalyi-father-of-flow/>

A personal example of this flow is writing under pressure or reading an extremely compelling book. I am unsure if this counts as a flow state. However, I do feel as if I have experienced the listed characteristics of flow. During my first semester, at college, I had to write a long argumentative research paper in a short period of time. This assignment was one I was interested in because I got to pick my topic and while it wasn't extremely challenging, it wasn't extremely easy either. A condition that isn't beneficial is if I am not excited by an assignment or topic. I think it is extremely important to the quality of my work. It also links back to what Csikszentmihalyi said about flow and how it is my motivation. Once I get into the zone of writing, I am able to spout words on a page.