

# Skill Enhancement Course- Education

B.A Programme Semester-4

Paper: Reflective Learning

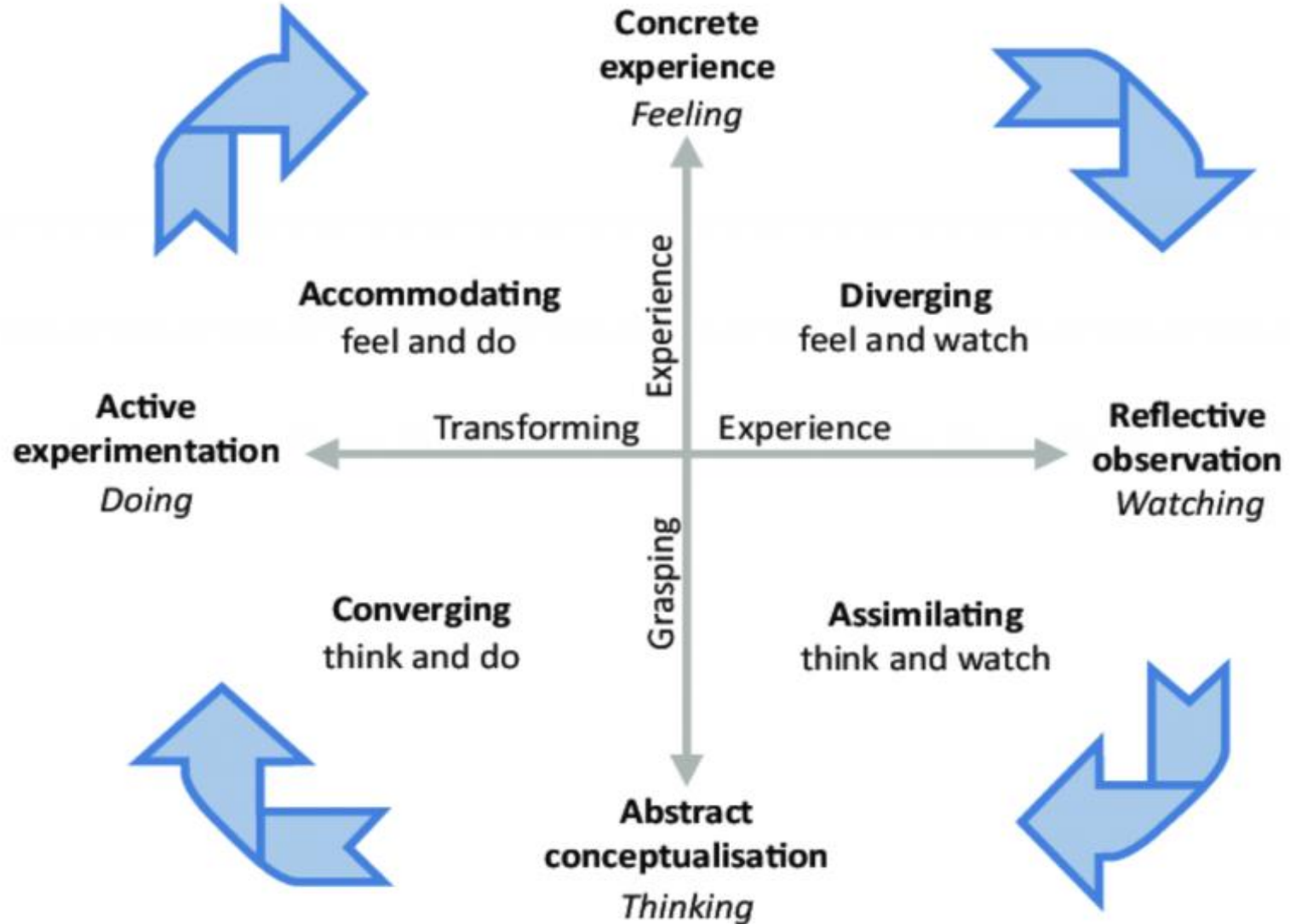
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3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

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# Let's Revise



# Donald Alan Schon

- **Donald Alan Schön** (September 19, 1930 – September 13, 1997) was a philosopher and professor in urban planning who developed the concept of reflective practice.
- Schon's theory of reflective practice was developed in his seminal book 'The Reflective Practitioner: How Professionals Think in Action', first published in 1983
- Unlike Kolb's (1984) reflective theory, Schon's theory is not a multi-stage or circular model of reflection
- Rather, the key feature of Schon's theory is the distinction he draws between reflection during the event and reflection after the event

- To provide a summary of Schon's reflective model, it is important to define what he meant by
  - (1) Knowing in action
  - (2) Reflection in action
  - (3) Reflection on action

# (1) Knowing in action

- Schon's appreciation of the role of intuition.
- When Schon talked about 'knowing in action', he was referring to practitioner's intuitive ability to know how to perform a task.
- For example, the ability of a teacher to obtain the attention of a classroom.
- As Schon put it, "Our knowing is ordinarily tacit, implicit in our patterns of action and in our feel for the stuff with which we are dealing. It seems right to say that our knowing is in our action"

## Reflection in action

### Reflecting as something happens

- Consider the situation
- Decide how to act
- Act immediately

## Reflection on action

### Reflecting after something happens

- Reconsider the situation
- Think about what needs changing for the future

# Reflection in Action

- As suggested by the names, reflection in action occurs during the event.
- Reflection in action helps the practitioner to become more dynamic and responsive.

# Reflection on action

- Reflection on action occurs after the event.
- Reflection on action allows the practitioner to spend more time considering the situation, considering various interpretations, and thinking about how they could respond differently in the future



# Why use Schön's reflective model

- Schon's model is commonly celebrated for its ease of use and its real-life applicability.
- To be more specific, Schon's model can be used during the event (as well as afterwards) so it often appeals to practitioners who are time poor and who feel as if they do not have enough time to carry out reflections after the event.
- Moreover, for practitioners working in a career where they are expected to be quick thinking, Schon's reflective model can encourage them to be dynamic by reflecting on the situation immediately and coming up with a creative solution.
- It has been suggested that practitioners who practice 'reflection in action' on a regular basis will become more adept at it and thus will develop their 'knowing in action' capabilities.

# Schön's model of reflection pros and cons

## Strengths

It is flexible and perhaps less time-consuming than other models because it can be performed during and/or after the event

It may help to build stronger management skills/dynamism, since it encourages learners to reflect in action and then react immediately. Therefore, it can be especially useful for learners working in careers where they need to be able to make fast, effective decisions

This model acknowledges the tacit or implicit knowledge of practitioners . This is empowering for the practitioner.

## Weakness

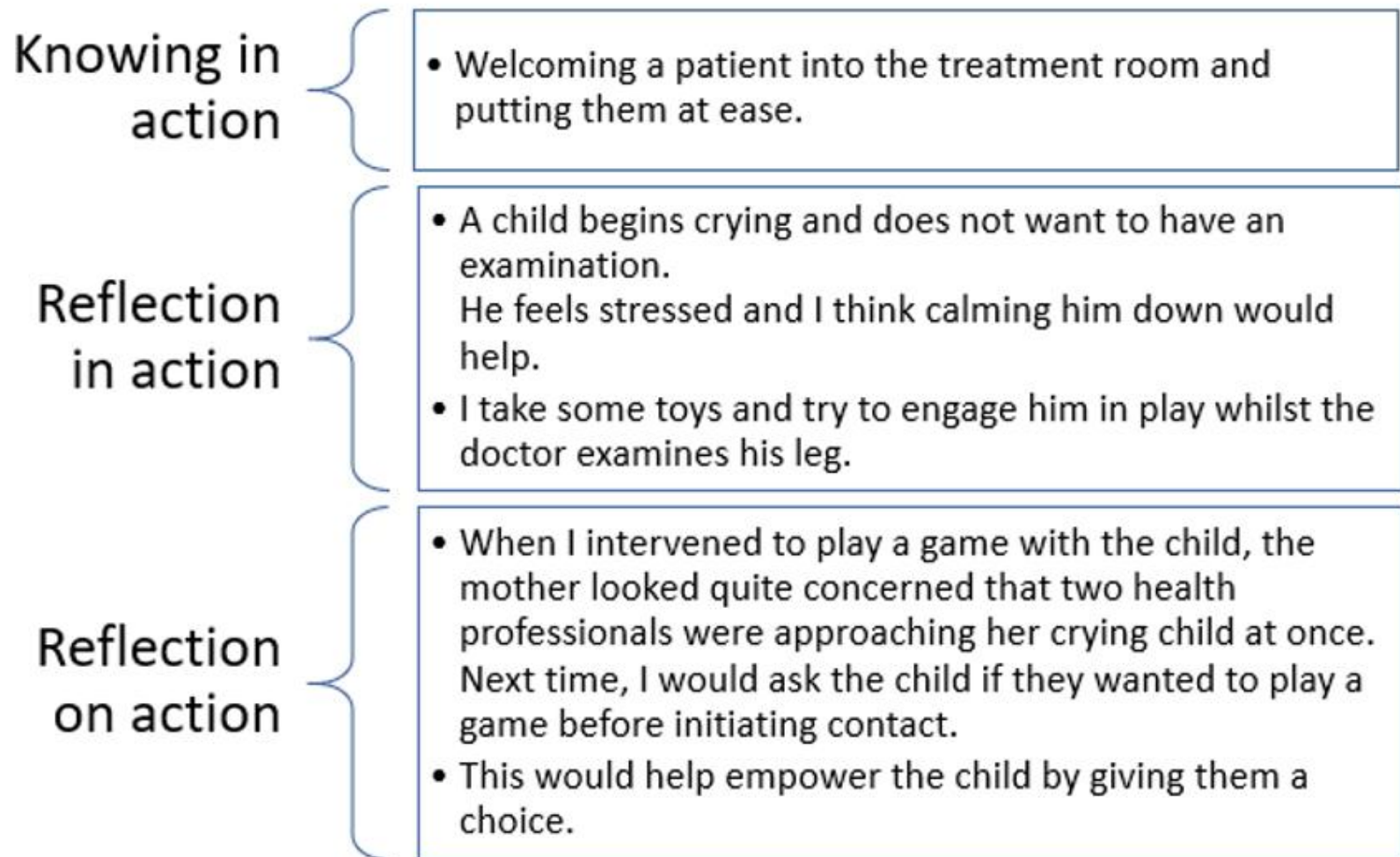
Reflecting 'during' an event could make the learner self-consciousness and/or anxious

This is not a stage model, so it does not attempt to explain the stages of reflection/learning.

Some have argued that it is wrong to assume that the act of reflection is a semi-intuitive process, since this implies that reflection is an ability some have and some simply do not have. This is therefore not empowering for all.

## Example

Below is an example of a nurse's reflection using Schon's reflective model



# For Next Class

- Schutz Model on Reflection

## Task:

Try to write any reflection according to schon model.



**QUESTIONS?**

**COMMENTS?**

**CONCERNS?**