

Creative

To be a creator is to be able to develop new ideas, to express original visions, to find a fresh way of doing or inventing the world around you. Do you think of yourself as a creator? Do you find new ways to handle old challenges? Fresh solutions to problems? Imaginative ideas or fictions that open out new horizons for people?

Examples

1

I have recently created a long work of poetry based on the little I know about the serial killer John Holmes, who shot up the Colorado movie theater. Though I know only random journalistic bits, about Holmes' life and deeds, I found in those bits the germs of an extensive mini epic about the drama, danger, and folly of life in our times. For me many things came together, as I reviewed the Holmes story: aspects of our indifference to human life; the problems of personal identity in our time; the potential of madness and violence among us; and, woven through these themes, input from my own life as I live it, a life not entirely immune from the madnesses of our time. I was able to generate a global vision from the Holmes story. It was a creative achievement, which spoke about our time and our places in it.

2

I am a creative dresser. I choose my tie and shirt each morning with what seems—to my wife—like reckless abandon, but is actually a creative throw of the dice. Without examining my tie rack I stretch out my hand and take the first color I touch, then move across the walk in closet to my shirt hangers. I pick my shirt by the same aleatory method. Then I step into the bedroom, put on my shirt and go to the mirror. There I attach the tie. Sometimes the color and pattern combinations, that result from this method, are startling—purple on green, stripes on circles—and yet I never fail to attract positive comments. Being creative is often a question of luck and daring.