The "G" Effect

What is it?

The last year has been hard on everyone. But why are some people thriving in adversity while others merely survive? The answer might be gratitude. Having a daily practice of thankfulness. According to psychologists, happiness and gratitude have been shown to be heavily associated. (Simon, m.d.) How? Well, for starters gratitude reorients your focus to the positive experiences which consequently bear positive emotions. So, when your mind starts recognizing the positive experiences, you derive more pleasure out of life.

What if gratitude doesn't come naturally? There is hope. You can create an opportunity for gratitude. According to researchers Emmons & McCollough in 2003, among the most effective ways of generating more positive emotions is to develop a practice of self-care. One of the easiest ways is to get into a daily practice of writing about what you are grateful for. They noted improved well-being in those that adopted a regular practice of gratitude journaling.

Well, how does one write about gratitude? Here at the
Future at Play, we understand the importance of well-being
first aid. So when you're full of worries or in a huff you can apply
what we call "The G Effect" which is essentially writing your way
out of a current negative situation. The G effect helps your
brain to rewire to happiness which leads to productivity.



eliza.hogan@futureatplay.com . www.futureatplay.com



The G Effect is good to use when you have anxiety that prevents you from moving forward because of fear. Or in the event of analysis paralysis, when you are overthinking a situation that your mind keeps on replaying in a million different ways to no end. Or when your brain automatically goes into dramatic overdrive, thinking the worst of the situation and it's hard to get back to reality because of fear. Or when you are in a rut and simply cannot seem to figure your way out of the funk.

Essentially when your rut-titude (rut +attitude) and fear is keeping you stuck. Turn your attitude to gratitude. Here is a step by step guide to actualizing a new habit of gratitude:

Step 1: Start by drawing a table like a Pros and Cons list but instead write ATTITUDE and GRATITUDE.

Step 2: Write all your worries or negative thoughts on the left side

Step 3: Now is the time to reframe everything you have written in a more positive manner. Take each worry or thought and try to write the positive in the right-hand column.

Reflect on your feelings as you reword each sentence. Does it make you feel better? Do you feel more positive?

Step 4: Repeat this exercise daily or a few times a day if needed and soon you will feel an uplift in your spirits as you rewire your brain for happiness, break the negative loop and give yourself more hope.

Alternatively, you can use our ready-made template and share it with family, friends and colleagues

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