

Creativity and Conceptual Spaces – *Margaret Boden (Cognitive Science), University of Sussex (GB)*

Creative thinking falls into three broad categories: combinational, exploratory, and transformational. The last two of these are defined in terms of conceptual spaces: accepted styles of thought (concerning art, science, cookery ...) within a particular culture.

Distinguishing between (some cases of) exploratory and transformational creativity may be difficult, however. In part, this involves judgements about the extent to which an existing space is 'tweaked', as opposed to transformed. And in part, it involves judgements about the individuation of conceptual spaces.

Identifying a conceptual space is difficult not only because the boundaries may be fuzzy, but also because many (most?) are hierarchical. Is a many-levelled hierarchy just one space or many? The 'depth' we ascribe to a new transformation is related to this point.