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Building a networking strategy

Virtual Classroom

Your Facilitator is: **Simon Lawson**

Welcome!



Etiquette

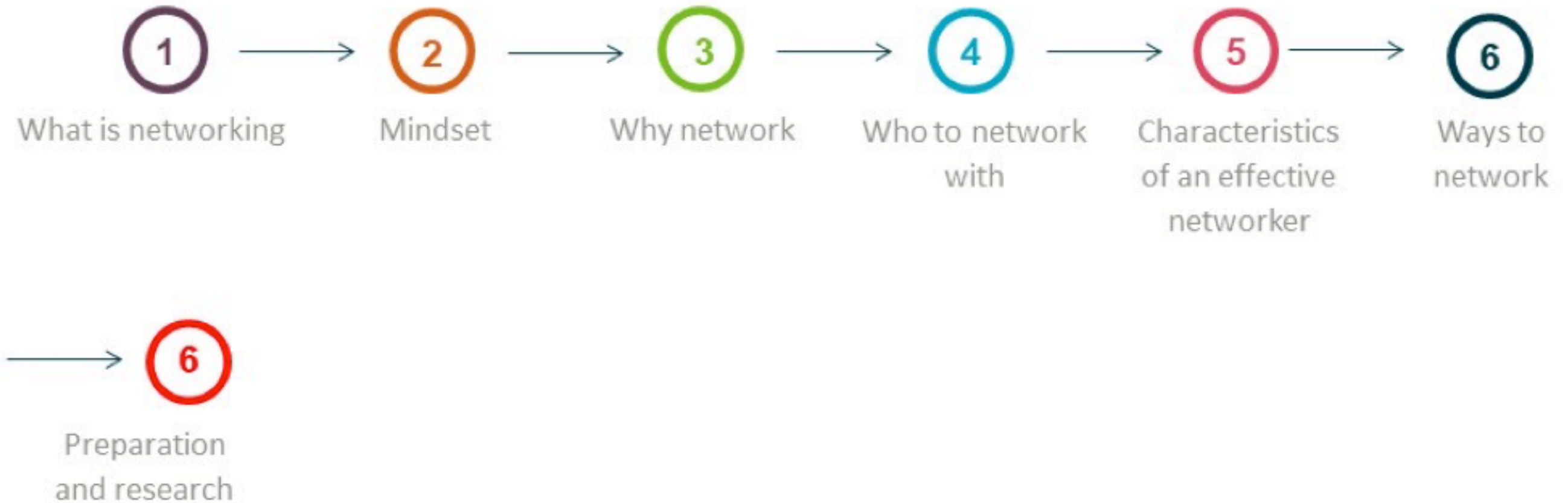
- *6 to mute and #6 to unmute
- Stay on mute when listening
- Interactive session – ask questions, share stories and challenges, comment on the topics, share learnings
- Do your work whilst in the session
- Use the chat function, annotation and talking to digest the information as well as listening and reflecting
- Technical issues – refer to your joining instructions
- Confidentiality

Objectives

- Understand what networking is, why to network and who to network with
- Establish your current mindset and how this can impact our success
- Know the characteristics of an effective networker
- Find out ways to network
- How to prepare and research effectively



Agenda



What is networking?



What is networking?

- 2 way relationship building with a purpose
- Reaching out to people you know and people you don't know

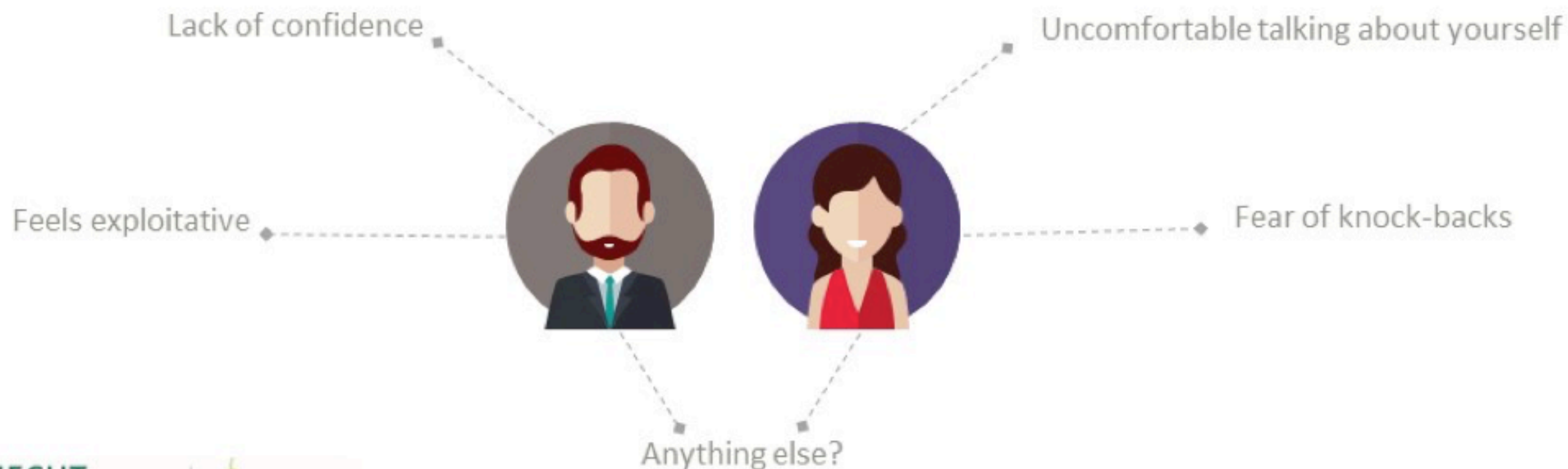


Current mindset

Mindset issues

Some things to think about:

Identify your personal obstacles and emotions that prevent us from networking, such as:



The value of mutual assistance

Your ideas and thoughts may help their own

Connections often enjoy to be asked for their advice or opinion

Consider your own response when others ask you for help and advice



Increases someone's own brand to connect a suitable candidate with a hiring manager



Networking in to a role

What % of people find their next role through networking?



- Networking
- Other

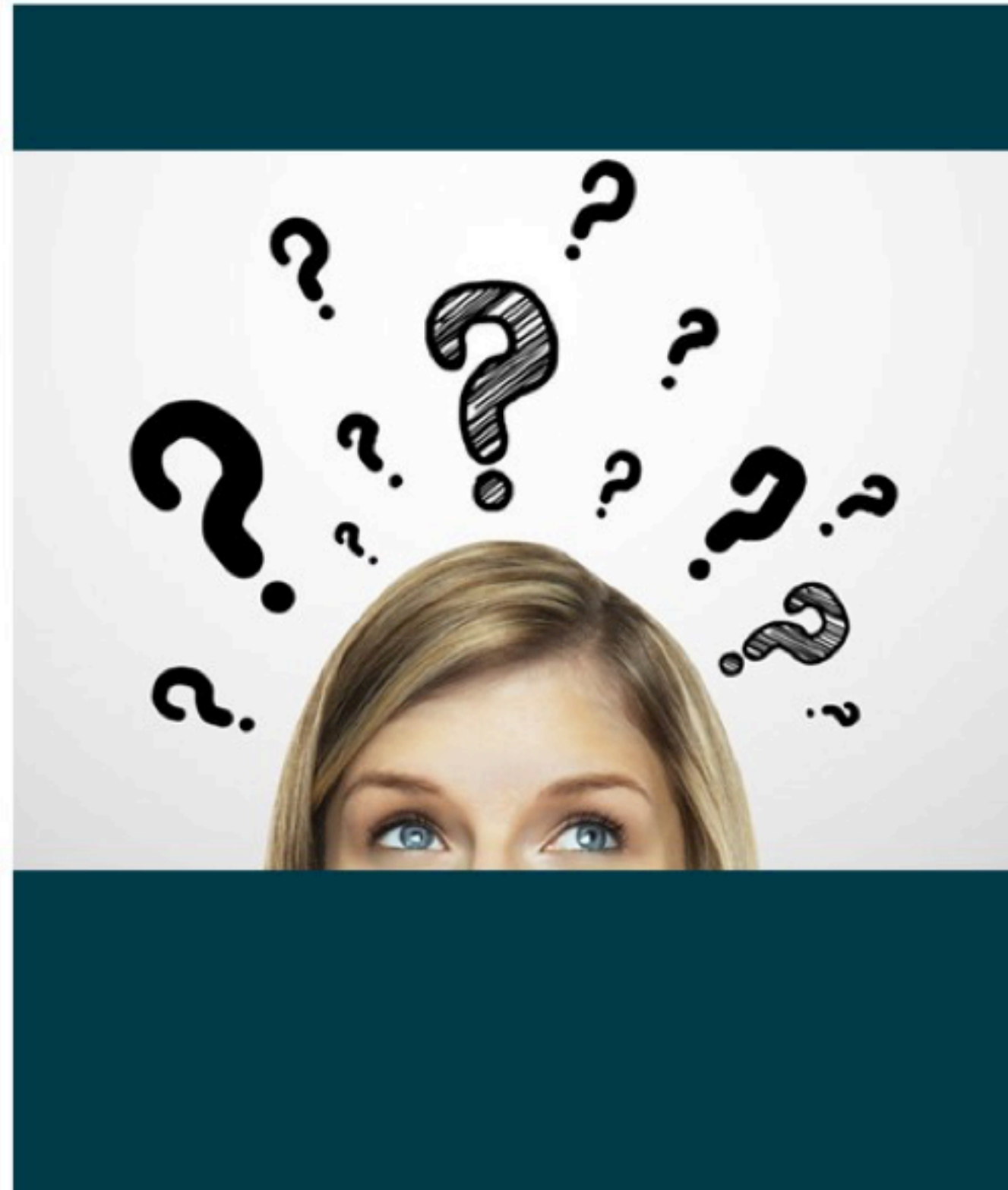
Why network?



Why network?



What are your list
of questions for
your current and new
network?



Questions to ask

- Key decision makers names and ways of working
- Culture of the company
- Industry information
- Job information
- Salary / benefits
- Interview processes



Who to network with



Networking categories

- Your buyer / key decision maker / future boss
- HR / Talent Acquisition
- Peers within and outside of industry/company
- Suppliers/Customers/Clients
- Anyone with whom you have an existing or prior relationship and positive reputation with



Activity after the session

- Who do you currently know?
- Who do you want to know?



Who are your networking contacts?

List a minimum of 5 in each category - are they Active, Dormant or Passive?

Friends, Relatives, Neighbours

Religious, Alumni and
Professional Organisations

Colleagues, Suppliers, Customers

Personal business connections

Community, Political Groups

Spouse's/Partner's Network

Characteristics of an effective networker



Characteristics of an effective networker



Characteristics of an effective networker



Takes the lead in nurturing relationships



Get to know people in broader ways



Regular maintenance conversations



What are some of
the ways to
network?



Ways to network

LinkedIn



facebook



Ways to network



Catch up with old friends, acquaintances, ex-colleagues



Unplanned meetings bumping into people



Formal meetings with those referred to you, hiring managers



Group networking events, e.g. alumni associations, trade/industry meetings or events, local business networking groups



Other meetings with **passive** or **dormant** contacts

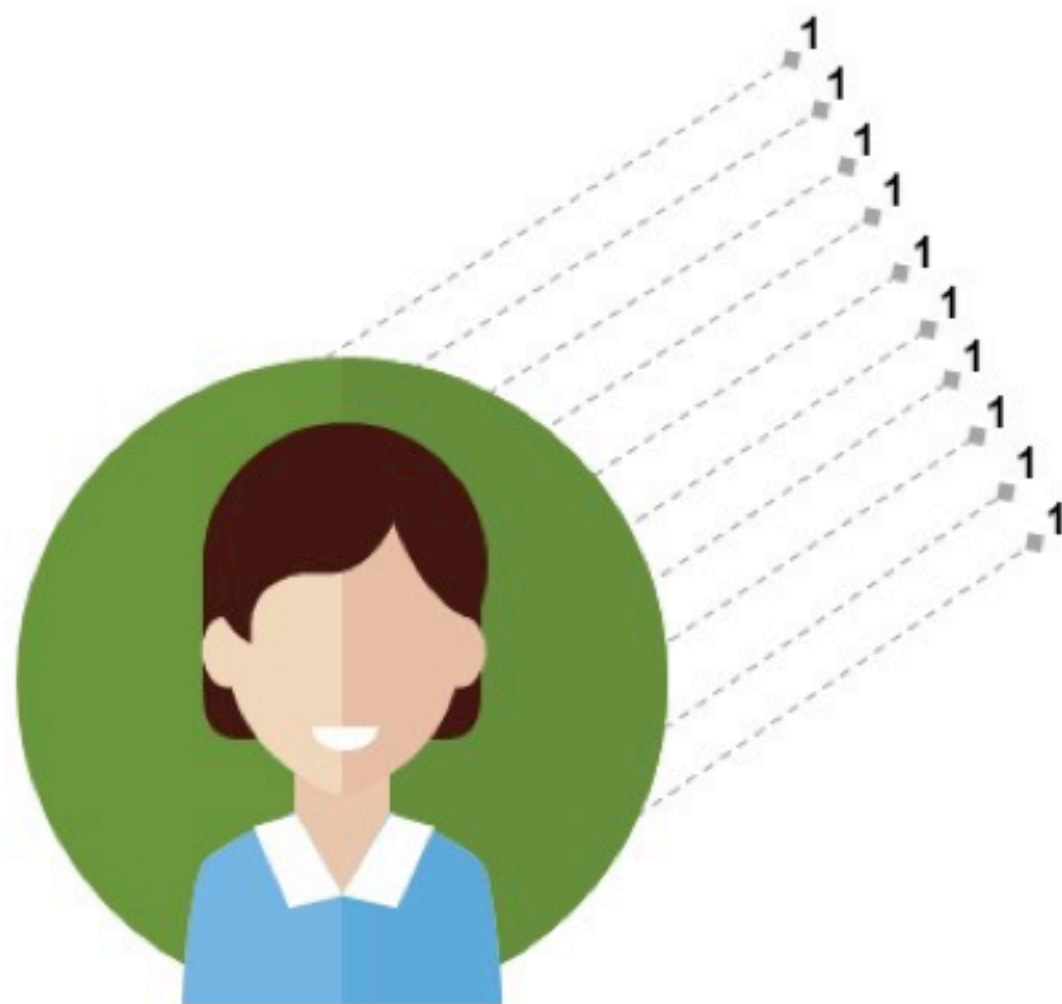


Non-business related group events/meetings, i.e. local clubs or societies



Relationship networking

- This diagram demonstrates the power of networking
- If your network consists of 10 people, and each of these have networks of just 10 people
- With just 4 degrees of separation you have potential links to 10,000
- We used to talk about the 6 Degrees of Separation – today it's closer to 4



**Potential total =
10.000 people**

Relationship networking

- 1st connections – Known connections
- 2nd connections – Your connections connections
- 3rd connections – Your connections connections connections



**Richard – my
connection
(1st)**

Michelle

**Richard's connection
(2nd)**

**Has advice about
finance roles in the toy
industry**

Matthew

**Michelle's connection
(3rd)**

**Works at Mattel as a
Finance Director**

Linked in message

- Peer

"I am connecting because I am a Senior Marketing Manager in pharmaceuticals and I see you are also in the same profession. I believe we have similar interests and so it would be great to connect"

- Key Decision Maker

"I read with interest that X company are looking for Senior Marketing Managers. I am an experienced Marketing Manager with a track record of building marketing strategies for big brands, for example X brand gained an increase of 30% market share through this strategy. It would be good to discuss your current needs and how I can be of value to your brands and customers"



Reconnecting with people

- Update them on your current career vision
- Show an interest in their progress
- Be clear why you are reaching out
 - Information
 - Questions
 - Connections
 - Advice
 - General catch up
- Use of humour
- The power of face to face



Preparation and research



Know your career vision

Senior Marketing Manager in the Cosmetics industry within a 10 mile radius of Reading, blue chip organisations

Identify your target market

Estee Lauder, MAC, Benefit, Hourglass Cosmetics, LVMH, L'Oreal

Research your target market

Estee Lauder – Marketing Director is Katy Daniels

MAC – Owned by Estee Lauder, Brand Manager is Paolo Deponti

Benefit – Marketing Director is Natalie Curtin



Preparation and research



Research the company, industry
key decision makers



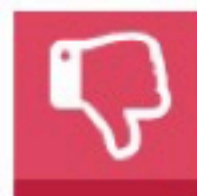
Practice your portfolio of scripts



Consider how best to make contact



Keep in touch – keep records



Don't assume people know
what you offer



Referrals – ask for these
whenever possible



Persevere!

The SMART way to networking meetings



Summarise your messages: Your professional objective, positioning statement and exit statement.



Marketing plan: Describe your marketing plan and, when appropriate, target(s) from your target list.



Ask questions. Ask about organisations on your target list, their issues, strengths, problems and people.



Referrals. Always ask for introductions to others with more/additional information on the targets you discussed.



Trade information. Always try to give your conversational partner useful information. Make the conversation a two-way street whenever possible.



Getting your message out there

What will you say?



Managing your network

Contact frequency – as agreed at your meeting

- Update on news/developments
- Articles
- Think how you can help them
- Make it easy - quick phone call, or email
- Broaden the scope, develop/nurture the relationship

If contacting a referral, be clear on objective

- Consider what could be helpful to them
- Ask for guidance or advice

Thank contact for the meeting

- Within 24 hours, email is fine



Going online

Use the internet for both researching and connecting with people:



Networking: a summary



- Recommended tools: Marketing plan Objective, Positioning and Exit statements
- Importance of relationship networking
- Preparation and research essential
- Keep up with people
- SMART Networking – a useful tool
- Continue to network
- The value of mutual assistance
- Manage your mindset issues
- Make online resources work for you



Networking

You are here: Home > Subjects



Networking is the most effective method for gathering helpful information from contacts to assist you at every stage of your career and definitely when in a job search. [Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

NOV 6

Building a Networking Strategy

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

London Gracechurch Street

Register

NOV 7

Effective Networking

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Webinar

Register

NOV 7

Building a Networking Strategy

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

London Gracechurch Street

Register

NOV 8

Recommended For You

- Network With Peers**
Be a Part of Our Online Community. [Join now.](#)
- Get Smart on Social**
Read Our Latest Report. [Download now.](#)
- Find Us on LinkedIn**
Tap the Knowledge of Our Community. [Join today.](#)

Recommended Resources

SELL

The SELL approach is designed for use with contacts inside target organisations, especially hiring managers and those above that level. It is more focused than the SMART approach. Find out about the 4 steps of SELL.

★★★★★

Understanding Relationship Networks

Networking is simply talking with people, exchanging information about any number of topics from the mundane to the very serious. Most of us are involved in a number of different types of networks based on relationships. Find out about Relationship Networking in your job search.

★★★★★

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Thank you

File, Save as the slides



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Additional resources



Key messages: your professional objective

Things to consider when building your 'professional objective':



What role are you targeting?



How would you describe this to someone outside your function / skill set?



What key words convey the skills / expertise you want to communicate?

If you're not sure of the role you want yet, focus on the skills/expertise/motivations



Key messages: your positioning statement

Developing your 'positioning' statement:



What you are (role/function/
description/level etc.)



Any special features/key skills etc.



What you do for whom and why



Why you are meeting



The value of your role/activity



Current/future direction



Key messages: your exit statement

Key components of an 'exit' statement:



• A short, pragmatic business rationale for leaving your employer

• A positive perspective

• Clarity and confidence about your core expertise

• A sense of direction