

Imagination, Creativity, and Originality

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Imagination

Merriam-webster definition: the act or power of forming a mental image of something not present to the senses or never before wholly perceived in reality.

Our imagination comes from our past experiences, our memories, and our emotions. We are able to visualize things that we've never seen before in life, situations that may or may not happen, and many, many more.

Creativity

Dictionary definition: the use of imagination or original ideas to create something.

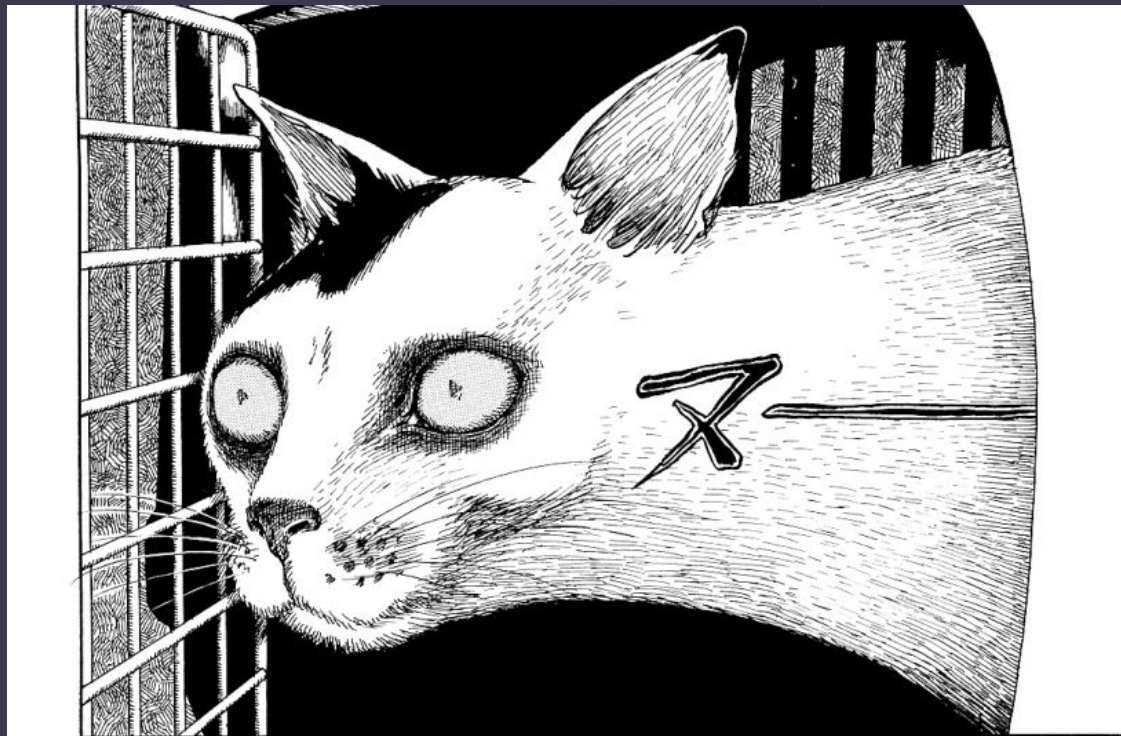
Creative ideas do not need to be only to create something, but can also be a clever way of solving a problem or something of the sort.

Are there rules to creativity?

When creating something, are there rules that must be abided by?

- Visual artists (professionals and hobbyists, bound by aesthetics)
- Writers (=)
- Musicians
- Programmers





Originality

Dictionary definition: n. 1: the ability to think independently and creatively. 2: The quality of being novel or new.

There are countless original works of art, technology, infrastructure, etc. etc. You could spend your whole life learning about different and unique concepts that by the time you died, you would barely have even scratched the surface.

Is there such thing as an original idea?

If someone had an idea that they had never heard of before but someone else had already thought of it, would it still be an original idea?

At what point is an idea 'original'?

Does knowledge and experience sway one's perception of original ideas as original?

Conclusion

From all that I've gathered, originality is very broad and means different things to different people. Everyone that I spoke to about this topic had something different to say about it.