

# Diploma in Leadership and Management

Lesson 8  
Leaders are  
continuously  
learning



## Leaders are continuously learning



Build a productive learning culture



Creating a growth and development mindset



How leaders develop others



The listening post



Pillar 1

# Build a productive learning culture

**“A man must be big enough to admit his mistakes, smart enough to profit from them, and strong enough to correct them.”**

John C Maxwell

# How we learn – failure is the perfect option !

## Formative experiences

- Those that shape and influence perspectives and behaviours.
- Learning from experiencing crises.
- Personal experience of challenges monetary, poverty, climate change.

## How do we deal with mistakes

- It's part of what makes us human.
- How do we learn both from the leader who made the mistake and for those whom the mistake was made.

## Talent management and development

- How can these kinds of experiences be encouraged.
- Recruitment, personal development and succession planning.

## Leaders take responsibility

- They build confidence and trust.
- Leaders seem to know or learn that a sense of control over our situations defines one of the most basic of human needs.
- We feel empowered and focused.



Productive Learning Culture

## Leadership pathways to learn



### Performance

- Perform and excel in role
- Be a risk taker
- Stretch yourself and others

### Trust

- Trust in your own abilities and others
- Adapt and act appropriately
- Influencing others through coaching and mentoring.

### Learn all the time

- Reflect on past event.
- Learn the lessons from failure.
- Be self aware.
- Understand your strengths and weaknesses

### See the big picture

- Observe what's going on around you
- Integrate across department and boundaries



# Build a productive learning culture



## Set example

- Be a risk taker
- Learn from failure
- Share information and collaborate
- Continuously improve
- Seeing positive outcomes

## Increase participation

- Let everyone learn
- High-quality, curated learning opportunities.
- Build a supportive learning environment.



## Engagement

- Learners now spends 39% of his or her work time learning.
- They waste approximately 11% of their time on unproductive learning.
- Organizations that drive productive learning see a 12% improvement in employee performance.



# Creating a high impact learning organization (HILO)



## Teach employees how to learn

- Rather than simply creating and delivering learning content, the best organizations advance the organization's learning capability.
- Design learning programs that increase employee awareness of how to learn, not just what to learn.

## Use learning technology .

- Use learning technologies and platforms that enable employees to develop their learning behaviors, not simply consume content..
- LMS/CMS/LCMS

## Create personal learning environments.

- Encourage the individual and the organization as a whole—to increase knowledge, competence, and performance.
- They are 32 percent more likely to be first to market.
- They have 37 percent greater employee productivity.
- They have a 34 percent better response to customer needs.
- They have a 26 percent greater ability to deliver quality products.



Pillar 2

## Creating a growth and development mindset

“The growth and development of people is the highest calling of leadership.”

Harvey Firestone



Creating a growth and development mindset

# Grow happy and motivated employees

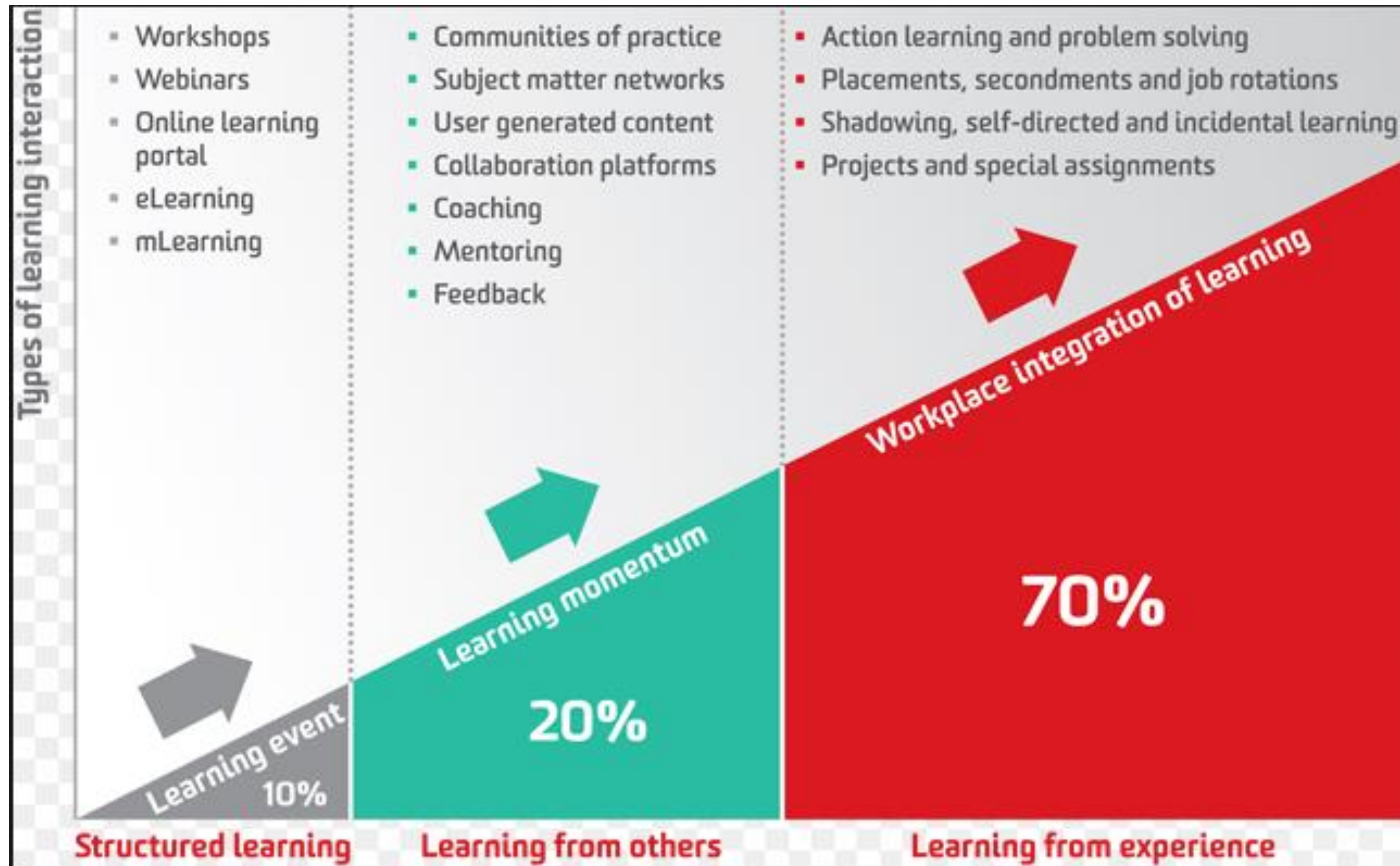


1. Intelligence and abilities can be developed over time.
2. Emphasise the hard work they have accomplished.
3. Leaders are critical to team development, staff motivation, and the achievement of strategic objectives.
4. Place high value on learning, are open to feedback and are confident in their ability to cultivate their own and others' abilities.
5. Focus on continual learning and accept mistakes and failure as necessary to the overall development process.



Creating a growth and development mindset

# Apply the 70, 20, 10 Model (Center for Creative Leadership)





# Pushing too far the talented mindset



Who remembers the Enron scandal?

- Fortune named Enron "America's Most Innovative Company" for six consecutive years.
- Revenues of nearly \$101 billion during 2000.
- *Institutionalized, systematic, and creatively planned accounting fraud,*
- Was it avoidable?

1. Many organizations believe in natural talent and don't look for people with the potential to develop.
2. Not only are these organizations missing out on a big pool of possible leaders, but their belief in natural talent might actually squash the very people they think are the naturals.
3. It would have been better to promote a culture that accepted failure or mistakes as a way to learn more effectively and improve in those areas that clearly still needed further development.



Pillar 3

## How leaders develop others

A hundred years from now all that will matter is the people that you connected with in such a way that you added value and meaning to their lives.



This is who I am !

## Have you identified your successor?

John C Maxwell 21 Irrefutable laws of Leadership



### Develop everyone

- 30% of a leaders time should be devoted to development.
- Have a visible strategy for development that people participate in every day.
- Spend more time in the classroom teaching leaders than in the boardroom.

### Plan your succession

- Look internally.
- Look for peers who might be ready for a horizontal move.
- Direct reports of peers who are viewed as high potential.
- Think outside the box and also speak to HR.



### Development plans

- Target projects that will hone the desired skills.
- Expand their network to build relationships.
- Appoint a mentor.



“How leaders develop others

## Developing full potential – too often we fail

### I have an open door policy

- Go out and actively look for problems, don't just wait for them to come to you.

### I expect you to be accountable

- When demanded, its purpose it to absolve the person demanding it.

### Re-organization

- Managers rarely solve the problems through a re-org.

### The busy fool

- A manager should not be constantly busy doing stuff.

### I want “the right person”.

- The problem was that we had the “wrong” people.

Gallup poll in 2014 found that companies make the wrong choice in selecting managers 82 percent of the time





The listening post

# How leaders develop talent

## What do you wish to accomplish

- Celebrate both the outcome and the learning.

## Link values to work

- People need to understand why what they do is important.

Be a role model

Reinforce the Value of Learning

Build sustainable processes

Reinforce shared values

Leverage problems as opportunities

## Show your willingness to learn

- Embrace vulnerability: leaders are never more powerful than when they are shown to be learning.
- Collaborate more.

## Coach & Mentor

- Career tracks are developed that give them a sense of where they can go inside the organization.

## Acceptable failure

- Incorporating stretch assignments.
- Develop without feeling like mistakes will set them back in their career



How leaders develop others

## Steps to assist in developing others

### Start by owning the process

- State your purpose: to maximize the performance of all.
- Uncover hidden talent.
- Matching talent to new projects.

### Strengths and opportunities

- Start with feedback, managers peers, 360s.
- Acknowledge strengths and uncover developmental opportunities.
- Have the team carry out a self-assessment exercise.

### Development conversation

- Set the development tone and be positive.
- Given your self-assessment, what goals will you set for yourself?
- What resources will you need to accomplish these goals?
- How and when will we jointly assess progress?
- What do you need from me to be successful in accomplishing these goals?

### Document the Plan

- Commit to a vital few goals (no more than 3 areas for improvement).
- You, the team, the organization.
- Select specific strategies to accomplish each goal.

Monitor progress, provide feedback and recognize success



How leaders develop other

## What leaders leave behind – a development legacy



### Develop other leaders

- Empowering them.
- Be clear: invest in those who actively teach and coach the values and principles that align with your purpose.

### Invest in people

- Encourage them to lead.
- **Prioritize people over results.**
- They can change the culture.

### Invest time and resources

- Invest in your team's professional growth
- They will make an even bigger impact.

### Communicate in person

- Less email
- Can also be on the phone
- Using body language
- Bring to bear to full force of your personality

You may not be remembered very long for your results as a leader, because next year there's always another goal to reach--whether you're there or not.



All managers and leaders must master these four competencies

## What leaders leave behind

“The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind in others the conviction and will to carry on.”

Walt Lippmann



## Why leaders are continuously learning

Build a productive learning culture

Create a growth and development mindset

How leaders develop others

The listening post

- Congratulations you have just completed the final lesson is this Diploma in Leadership and Management.
- We're here to help, so contact us anytime!



Lesson 8 Summary



## Well done !



### Lead with purpose, vision and values

- Leaders lead from their most deeply held values
- Your behaviour, choices and actions are guided by those values.



### Communicate, Communicate.

- Share knowledge
- Break down siloes.



### Build relationships and collaborate

- Respect everyone
- Seek feedback and adjust accordingly
- Build your network



### Grow yourself and others

- The best leaders are always learning: read, listen, engage.
- They scan/observe their environment for insight.
- They grow talent.





# QUESTION TIME

See you back for the Advanced Diploma  
In Leadership and Management



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