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# How to plan a project: An introduction to Project Based Learning



YOUNG LEARNERS

ENGLISH (16+)

UNIVERSITY PATHWAYS

TEACHER TRAINING



#mybellstory

[bellenglish.com](http://bellenglish.com)





Arrange yourselves in groups of 3-4. Try to find people who teach a similar age-group or a similar context to your own.



# Learning intentions

You will:

- be able to describe the key features of project based learning.
- be better able to plan and structure a project for your learners.
- have planned and presented a project idea to your colleagues.



# What is project based learning?

## WARM UP BINGO


Write 6 words to describe Project-Based Learning

# What is Project-based learning?



1. Has a **final outcome**
2. Focuses on the **process** and the **product**
3. Outcome is **shared** with others
4. Is **collaborative, challenging** and **relevant** to students
5. Answers a **guiding question**

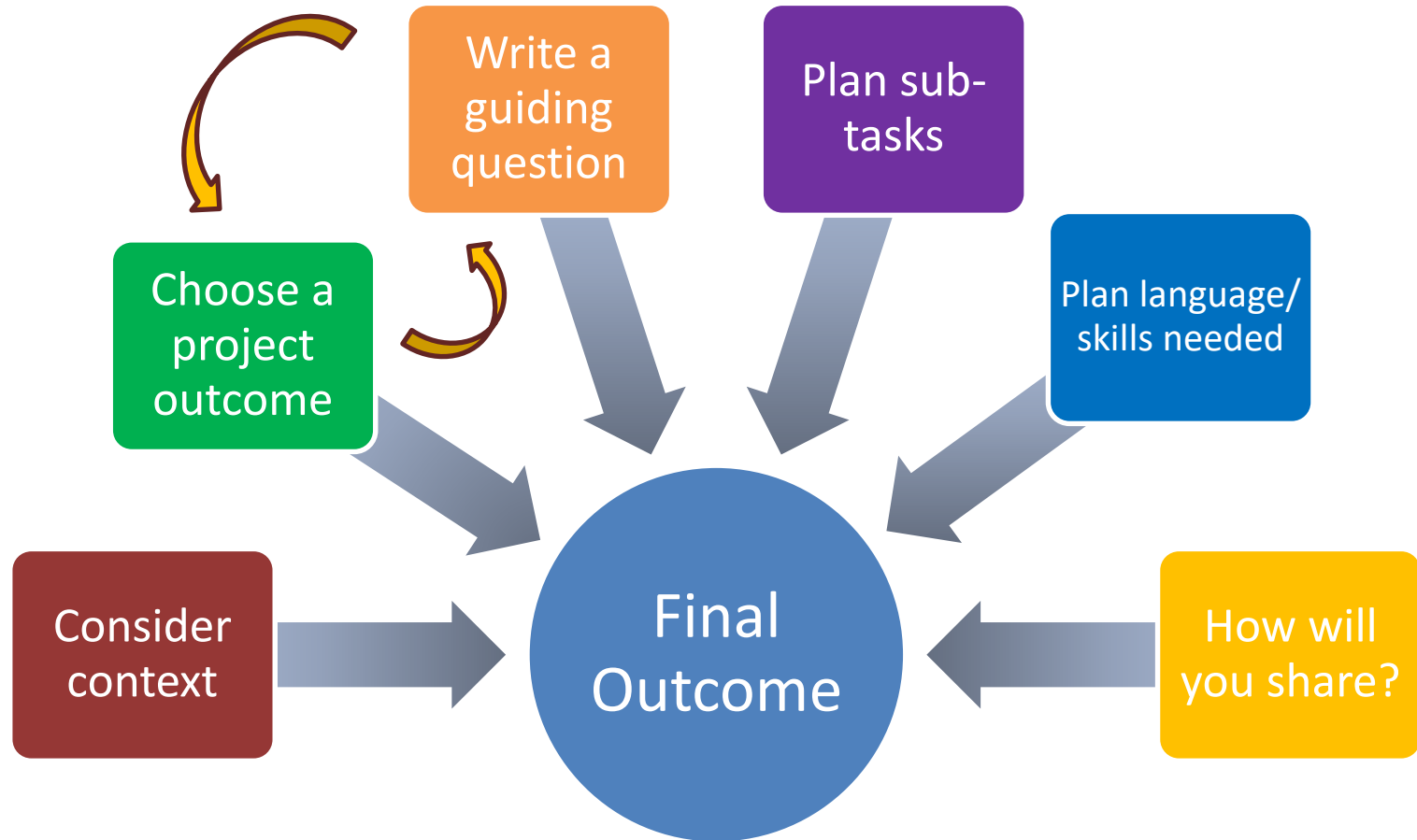
Source: Larmer et al. (2015) *Setting the Standard for Project Based Learning*

[www.bie.org](http://www.bie.org)

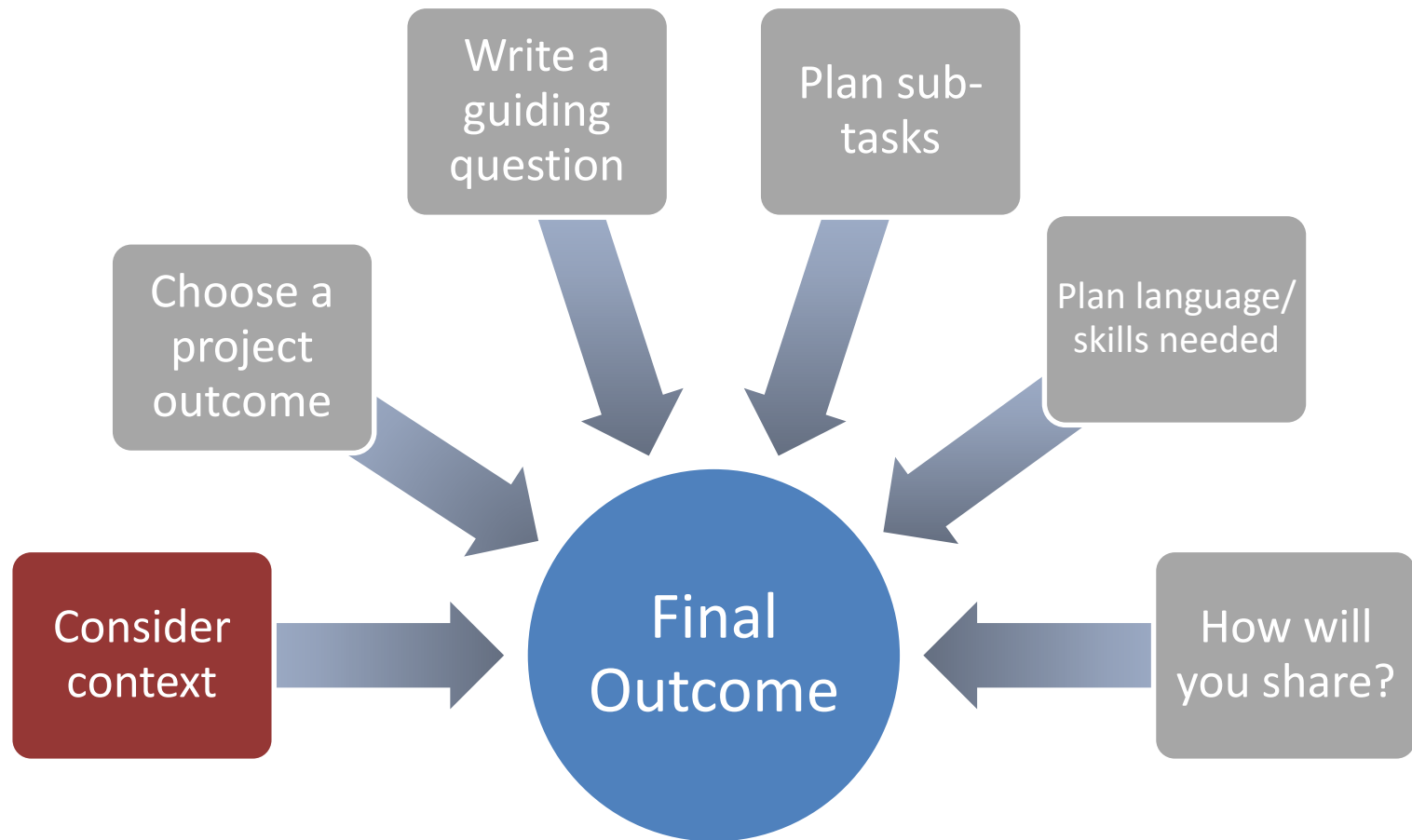


## Why use project work?

- It's hands-on.
- Gives direction.
- Can introduce language + content
- Differentiation.
- Sharing.
- It's highly motivating, engaging and challenging for students.









# Consider Context

- Subject/topic: literature/global issues/history/
- Age of students:
- Language level:
- Time frame: how long do you have?



# Consider Context

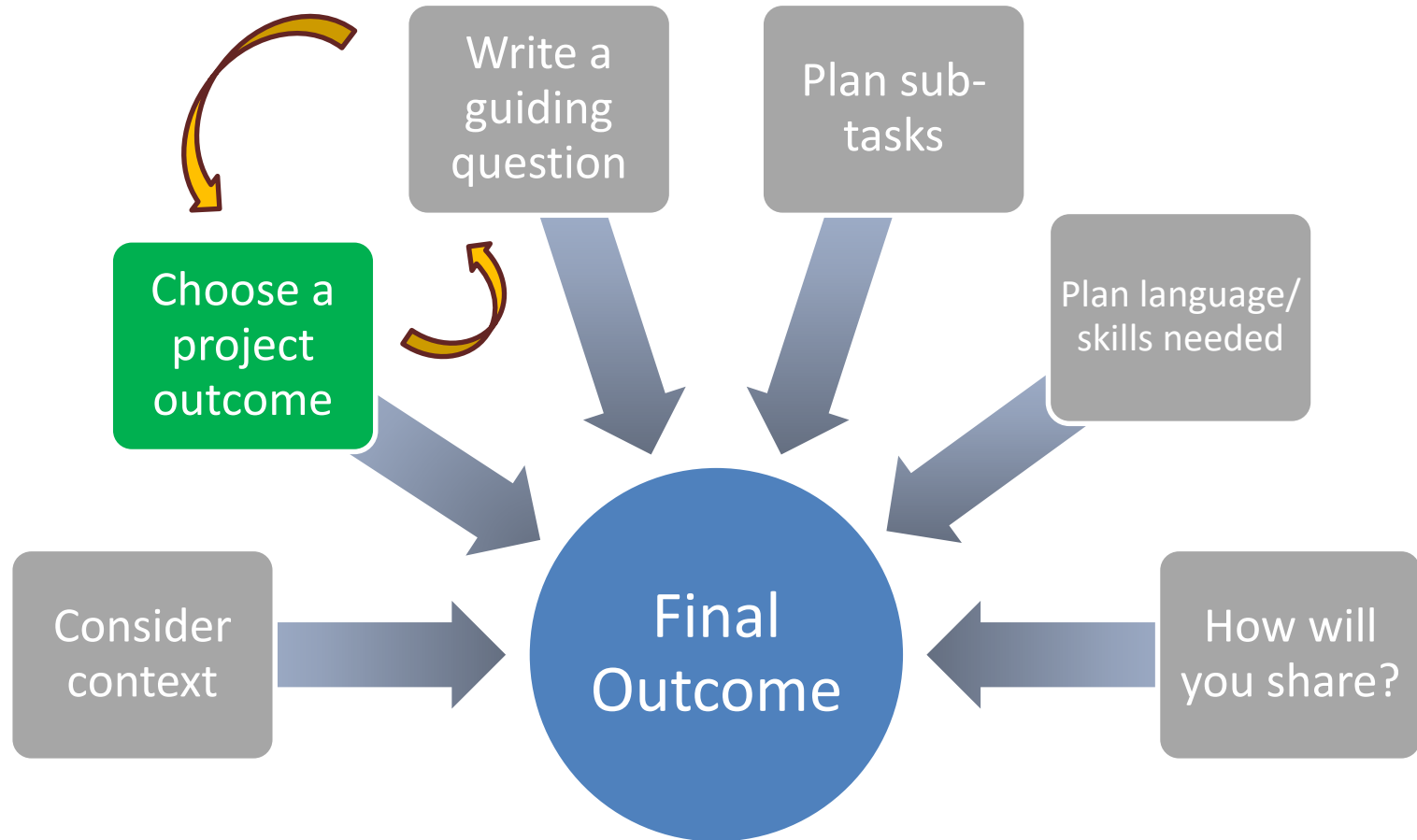
- Subject/topic:
- Age of students:
- Language level:
- Time frame: how long do you have?

CLIL

Secondary/Tertiary  
16+

Secondary  
12-15

Primary  
7-11



## Step Two: decide a project outcome





## **Step Two: decide a project outcome**

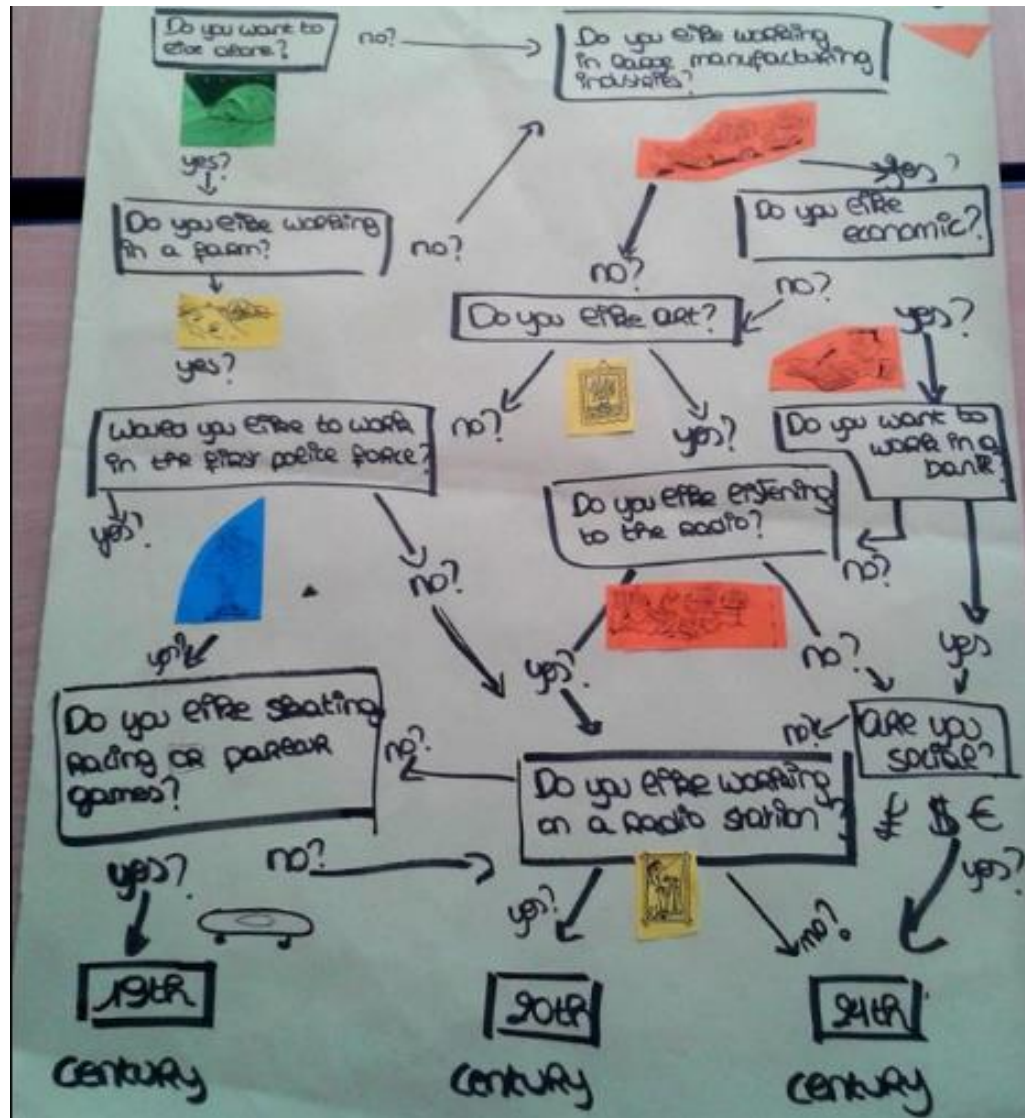
- A presentation

Can you think of more?



## **Step Two: decide a project outcome**

- A presentation
- A business pitch
- Story/poem/script
- Comic strip
- Flowchart
- Play/performance
- A letter/an email
- A short film
- An advertisement
- A blog
- A Buzzfeed video
- A podcast
- A menu
- An experiment
- A board game
- A magazine or newspaper







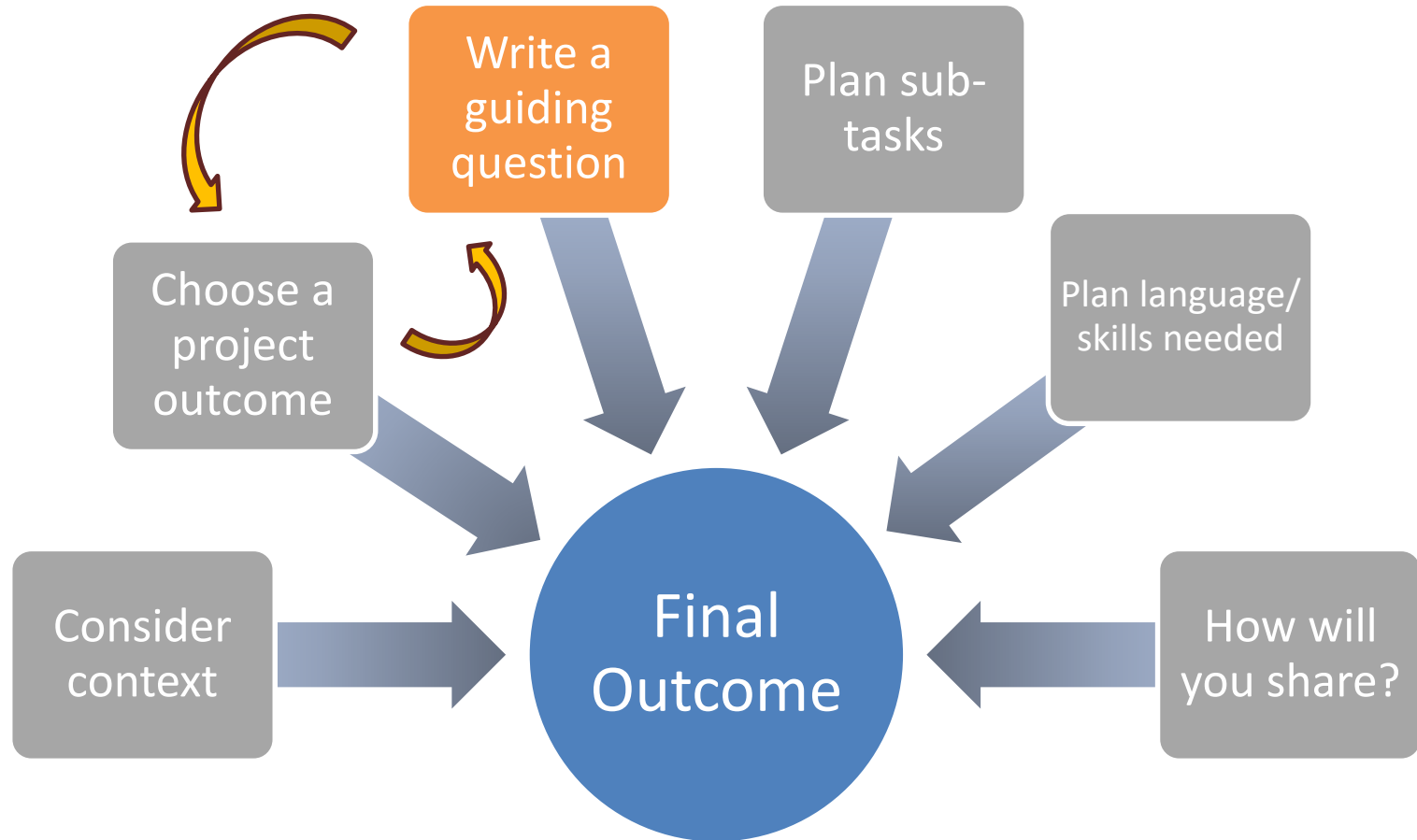




All started when Romeo was in Instagram. He was looking at Rosaline's profile. When he was looking at her picture he saw a beautiful girl with Rosaline. She had straight blonde hair and light blue eyes. She looked younger than Rosaline. He stopped to look at the picture and his eyes fell on #HAPPYBIRTHDAYROSALINE. He fell in love at first sight. Romeo decided to send her a message.....







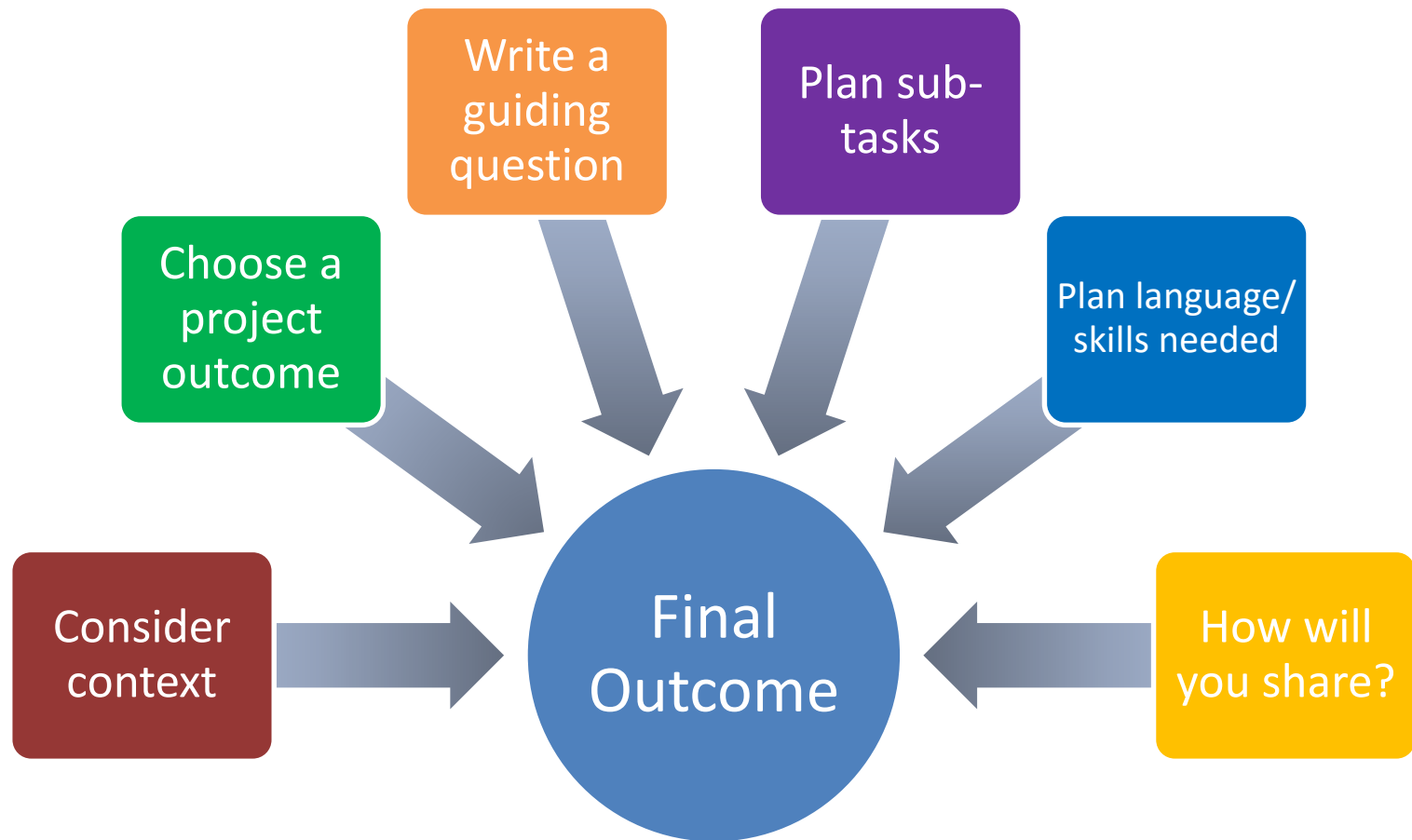


## **Step 3: write a guiding question**

Your project should aim to answer a question or solve a problem.

How can we...?

(see my Thursday workshop for more details! 😊)



## Step 4: Plan sub-tasks

- Usually a project will involve various sub-tasks to prepare the students for the final outcome.
- E.g. to produce a short documentary students need to:
  - Research the topic, understand the topic, summarise the topic
  - Plan the content: produce a story board and script.
  - Film the content, edit the content.
  - Present the content





## You are the student...

**Guiding question:** Who should marry Harry?

**Outcome:** Profiles of possible girlfriends for Prince Harry

### **Sub-tasks:**

Research Prince Harry

Find out about celebrities.

Create a presentation.

## Sub-tasks

1. Knowledge – what information do I need to know to achieve this outcome?
2. Skills – what do I need to be able to do to achieve this outcome?
3. Language – what language do I need to be able to produce in order to succeed?



## **Step 5: consider the language**

- Language
  - vocabulary
  - grammar
  - functions
  - skills

And don't forget...

- language for doing a project



## Topics

What language could be connected with these topics?

Food

Animals

Superheroes

Natural disasters

The Royal Family

Travel

**vocabulary**

**grammar**

**functions**

# Food glorious food!

I like/don't like...

Count/uncountable

Phrases for ordering  
food

Adjectives

Intensifiers:  
*absolutely* delicious

verbs for cooking



Quantifiers (cup of,  
piece of, loaf of etc.)

Making a complaint