



## THE TAKE 5 GROUNDING EXERCISE (about 5 mins)

#### A. Acknowledging

- I'm aware that my attention went to.. •
- I'm aware of... the thought that..
- I'm aware of the sensation/feeling of...
- I accept that it's already there .
- I'm now out of autopilot .

#### **B. Breathing Body Scan**

- Begin to breathe a bit more deeply and slowly, •
- Noticing the air going all the way in and all the way out •
- Relaxing the stomach muscles / diaphragm •
- Pacing your breathing with your favourite sequence •
- Relaxing the muscles from top to toe, allowing your whole body to settle
- Noticing areas of tension or discomfort and relaxing them as you breathe out

#### C. Centering

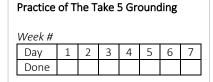
- Becoming aware of being here and now ٠
- Observing your body, expression and posture •
- ٠ Bringing your attention back to this moment; accepting that mind-wandering is normal
- Noticing contact points with the surface below .
- Grounding with your feet, feeling the contact with the ٠ ground/floor; sensation in the soles
- Noticing sounds in and outside this space, noticing your . breathing
- Observing only no need to fix or change things .
- Stretch or move (even subtlety) to shift gears •

#### D. Directing

- Direct your attention to where it needs to be now/next •
- Use questions to activate control centre in brain •
  - What's the task at hand (priority)?
  - What's the best sensible action now? 0
  - Where should my attention be now? 0

## E. Engaging

- Engage: Start or continue action if ready
- Exit: tactical withdrawal to seek advice or try another • tactic (plan B)



#### THE SIGNS OF COMPOSURE I'm noticing

Feeling

- A relaxed feeling in the body
- Heartrate at a comfortable level
- Breathing comfortably
  - Feeling awake and alert
- A sense of calm
- A sense of patience
- Positive emotions

#### Thinking

- A sense of good concentration
- A sense of positive, constructive thoughts
- A sense of being centred and present
- A sense of being well-paced
- A sense of self-control over one's actions
- Ability to zoom out and take perspective

### Flow on effects

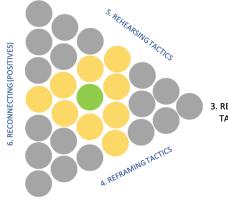
- Composed body language
- Composed facial expressions
- Ability to just observe without fixing
- Staying on task or returning to task
- Ability to sit with uncomfortable situations
- Ability to be still and NOT REACT to triggers



# Weekly Exercises: WORKSHEET 1c2

Main Goal Initials Date Week

#### **1. RECOGNISING TACTICS**



Tactical Composure: deliberately applying easily-actioned composure tactics and exercises, for longer-term benefits in resilience, productivity and wellbeing.

3. RE-FOCUSING TACTICS

> Mindset Tips: Be intentional, curious, open and patient. Practice versus perfection. A choice to exercise (or test-out) this composure tactic, regardless of what's been happening and what's around.

2. REGULATING TACTICS

## NOTES ABOUT TRIGGERS & TACTICS





## NOTES and QUESTIONS

**Reframing** – choose one situation from this week, that provoked tense thoughts (5-10 mins)

NOTICE AUTOMATIC THOUGHTS Write your automatic thoughts, using the actual words and sentences you notice in your mind. REFRAME TO DELIBERATE HELPFUL THOUGHTS Write your 'reframed' thoughts, using the actual words and sentences you would rather think, to better serve you, others and your goals in the situation.

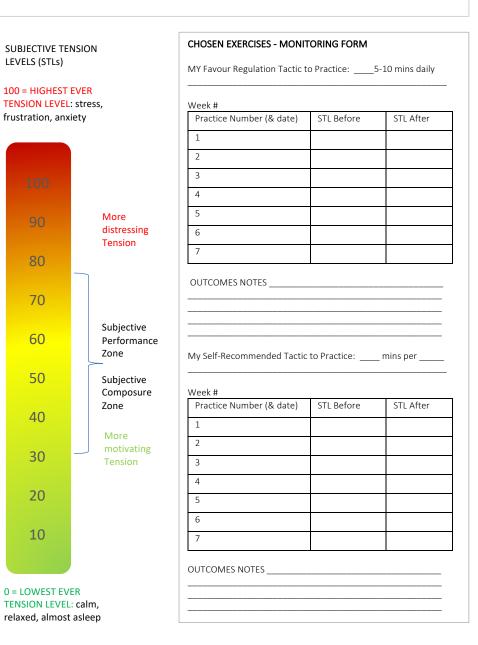
Self-Instructional Method (SIM) – choose one situation that's likely and prepare (5-10 mins)

WHEN "X" SITUATION OCCURS .....

Describe the specific situation, thought, feeling and/or behaviour that occurs (will occur again in the future).

I WILL DO "A, B, C, ... " Describe the helpful and deliberate things you will do, think and/or say.

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