

Strategies for Increasing Student Interaction in the Classroom

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Workshop Outline

- Brain-Based Learning Principles
- Bloom's Taxonomy – use of questions for discussion
- Strategies for involving students in the classroom

What is your method of presentation?

One Minute Paper

- List the activities that occur in your classroom in a one hour period. Describe specific content and how you cover this content.

Brain-based Learning

A comprehensive approach to teaching and learning that is based on how the brain naturally learns best

- Learning involves focused attention
- Learning activities should include social interaction
- Learning is enhanced by challenge

Lecture

- Oldest teaching method
- Widely used in universities throughout the world
- Successful lectures depend on students paying attention
- Challenge: to get students actively thinking in a lecture situation

What are some ways to get students involved in a lecture?

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Questioning Techniques

- Bloom's taxonomy
 - Continuum of questioning from simple to complex

Level One - Knowledge

- Checks previously learned material by recalling facts, terms, basic concepts (define, name, label)
- “What is _____?”
- “When did _____ happen?”
- “Who was _____?”

Level Two - Comprehension

- Demonstrates understanding of facts (compare, rephrase, summarize)
- “How would you compare _____?”
- “What can you say about _____?”
- “How would you summarize _____?”

Level Three - Application

- Solve problems by applying knowledge in a different way (develop, solve, utilize)
- “How would you use _____?”
- “How would you solve _____ using what you have learned?”
- “What would result if _____?”

Level Four - Analysis

- Examining and breaking information into parts by identifying motives or causes (analyze, classify, examine)
- “How is _____ related to _____?”
- “How would you classify _____?”
- “What evidence can you find _____?”

Level Five - Synthesis

- Compiling information in a different way by combining elements in a new pattern (construct, create, design, develop)
- “What would happen if _____?”
- “Can you invent _____?”
- “How would you test _____?”

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Level Six - Evaluation

- Presenting and defending opinions by making judgments about information (criticize, defend, dispute, evaluate, opinion)
- "What is your opinion of _____?"
- "What would you recommend _____?"
- "How would you prioritize _____?"

More strategies for Student Interaction

- Students write reactions or answers to problems.
- Students share solutions, work together on solutions (video clip)
- Students work in pairs to solve problems
- Student presentations (video clip)
- Student group critique (video clip)

Think about one of your courses

- Brainstorm strategies that you can use in your classroom

Evaluation and Closure

- Describing a specific lesson, name two strategies that you believe will work in your classroom.
- What benefits or barriers do you anticipate?
- Will you try it?

Good Luck!

