

Demonstrating Understanding of Authentic Pedagogy

The products of two group-based activities will demonstrate your understanding of Authentic Pedagogy. The first step is to review and extend your understanding of the theory. The second step is to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate the theory in order to create a poster which visually explains Authentic Pedagogy for your colleagues to use in classroom planning and professional presentations.

Activity #1: Review & Extend Your Understanding of Authentic Pedagogy

In your new groups, you will participate in the Best Practice strategy of carousel brainstorming. Select a colored marker, go to any posted newsprint, read the question, and record responses as you brainstorm answers. After 3 minutes rotate clockwise to the next posted question and, after reading previous responses, answer the new question by brainstorming answers. After 3 minutes rotate clockwise to the next posted question and continue until you have been at each posted question. When you return to the original question, categorize the responses and write a summary at the bottom. Be prepared to present the summary to the entire group. The following summary of carousel brainstorming provides further details of this valuable activity.

Carousel Brainstorming

Carousel brainstorming is a strategy to actively engage students in addressing major concepts or questions in groups by identifying their prior knowledge or reviewing and/or evaluating their learning. There are several steps for this activity.

1. Post newsprint paper (3-8 sheets depending on the task and size of the class) around the room, each with a different question related to the topic.
2. Students are placed in groups of 3-5 persons with each group having a different colored marker to record their responses.
3. Roles may be assigned including recorder, timekeeper, facilitator, and encourager.
4. Each group goes to a posted paper and brainstorms responses to the question or topic and records their responses using their colored marker.
5. After two to four minutes a signal is given and each group rotates to the next posted newsprint to brainstorm responses to the question or topic using their original colored marker. The colored marker shows the group's progress and assists accountability.
6. As each group rotates, they read previous responses and add their own responses. (They may also "star" previous statements with which they agree.) Each group continues to rotate until it has responded to each posted question.
7. When the groups return to their original question or topic, they should review responses. Next, each group categorizes the responses in order to summarize them to the entire group. Alternatively, the original group may be asked to:
 - Write a summary in exactly 5 words
 - Write a one-sentence summary
 - Identify the potential impact of the responses to the question or topic
 - Identify resources that may be helpful to investigate the question or topic further
 - Share personal experiences or reactions to the question or topic

Activity #2: Analyze, Synthesize, and Evaluate Authentic Pedagogy

In designated combined groups you will construct a poster of Authentic Pedagogy that will be reduced and duplicated for your use in classroom planning and professional presentations. You will probably want to include a summary of the theory, its components, and value for student learning and classroom planning. Use your book, handouts, and discussions with colleagues to design and create the poster.

Begin your poster by briefly explaining Authentic Pedagogy and its components. Next, create a symbol or image that embodies those characteristics that represent Authentic Pedagogy. Last, write persuasive statements which support the value of Authentic Pedagogy for student learning and classroom planning (instruction and assessment).

1. The theory should include an explanation of Authentic Pedagogy & its components:
 - Construction of Knowledge
 - Disciplined Inquiry
 - Value Beyond School
 - Substantive Conversation
 - Elaborated Written Communication
2. The symbol or image should represent Authentic Pedagogy and have meaning for you.
3. The persuasive component should highlight the value of Authentic Pedagogy for student learning and classroom planning (instruction and assessment).

Use the rubric as a guide for designing and constructing the poster.

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Theory	Clearly & effectively communicates theory & provides support with rich, powerful details	Clearly communicates theory with supporting details	Communicates important information about the theory, but not clearly	Communicates information about theory in isolated, random fashion
Representation	Symbol/image creatively, thoroughly & meaningfully represents theory	Symbol/image creatively & meaningfully represents theory	Symbol/image clearly represents theory	Symbol/image does not represent theory clearly
Value	Well-articulated & detailed reasoning contains no errors in logic	Well-articulated but not detailed reasoning contains no errors in logic	Reasoning makes a point but is not well articulated or contains some errors in logic	Reasoning makes no clear point or has errors in logic that makes it invalid
Poster	Well-designed, organized poster that uses conventions without errors	Organized poster that uses conventions with few errors	Organized but incomplete poster with necessary conventions but some errors	Poster without necessary conventions & numerous errors