Thread: Activity 1: Higher Order Thinking

Marghi Ghezzi

Activity 1: Higher Order Thinking

Purpose: To explore ways of sharing ideas in an online environment.

Preliminary step: Familiarise yourself with Padlet. Go into your group's padlet (set up by me) for you http://padlet.com/mghezzi/EDU80010_TP2_2015. You need to insert the password to access and work on it: EDU80010_2015

Task:

Imagine that you are a newly graduated teacher, teaching Grade 3. The school has a focus on Geography in first term and you decide to explore the question: what would it be like to live in a neighbouring country? (This inquiry question comes directly from the ACARA Geography curriculum.)

As a means of helping students think critically about which country they might choose, you decide to use the 'deciding among options' proforma (2007). This is a useful tool to download for the next task and you will find it in the Padlet wall above.

Go to the Padlet wall that I has set up for you and respond yourself to the ‘deciding among options’ questions.

Once you have done that, return to the Week 6 discussion board, and respond to the following questions:

1) Is the use of Padlet an example of ‘teaching above the line’? Give reasons for your answer, using the terminology in the SAMR model in your response.
2) Is the ‘deciding among options’ proforma a useful tool for critical thinking? Justify your response, using characteristics of critical thinking in your response.

These two questions require higher order thinking as they ask you to evaluate a technology (Padlet) and a tool for thinking, as well as asking you to defend your views.

Bloom's taxonomy (2012)

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Marghi Ghezzi
SAMR

Hello Team,

This is a great video about the SAMR model, this will help you with the activity this week:
Bill Papadopoulos

RE: SAMR

Thanks

Marghi Ghezzi

:)

Bill Papadopoulos

RE: Activity 1: Higher Order Thinking

Hi All,

Thought I would have a crack at it.
1) Is the use of Padlet an example of ‘teaching above the line’? Give reasons for your answer, using the terminology in the SAMR model in your response.

I believe it is teaching above the line using the SAMR model. This is as although it may appear as substitution by switching from a traditional approach to present information on an online platform, the functionality from the Padlet program upgrades the task to modification. Students will be able to access and interact on the tasks from various locations, not just in the classroom. Using an online collaborative space allows students to self assess, peer assess and develop ideas in and out of the classroom which demonstrates significant task redesign.

It also has the potential to extend beyond an individual class and work in collaboration with surrounding schools, students and the community that demonstrates that technology has created new tasks, previously inconceivable without it and illustrates redefinition.

2) Is the ‘deciding among options’ proforma a useful tool for critical thinking? Justify your response, using characteristics of critical thinking in your response.

It is a useful tool as it makes you list and define the major elements of the question at hand. What are we trying to decide? What are the key factors in play? What are the positives? What are the negatives?

So it helps us accurately define the issue and apply problem solving fluency to resolve the task. Working through the elements, we must evaluate and examine if the positives and negatives are in line with firstly what the problem is and the key factors in play in making our determination. We must then apply these elements to develop an outcome.

Having to work through the issue and go through the process of listing the task, key factors and both positive and negative factors helps in really understanding what we are trying to achieve. Rather than just having a biased uninformed opinion.
Bill & Higher Order Thinking

Thank you for posting in this activity, Bill,

And it is interesting to see that both you and another student from my other group agree on the use of Padlet; basically, you both see it as potentially an 'above the line' tool, but would need work and investigation with student into the functionalities of the tool to use it to its maximum transformative potential.

Marghi

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Emma Butler

Hi everyone,

Having a bit of an issue with the Padlet in getting it to load the doc so I can work on it, but hopefully it works itself out soon!

Question 1:

We can state that this is an example of teaching above the line, using the SAMR model. At first, I assumed that the use of Padlet was a tool only to present the information in an online capacity, making it more in line with digital forms of communication and reflecting our changing modes of communication. I experienced difficulty using the Padlet itself and was originally going to state that it was a simple change of presentation however once I worked out how to use the program properly, I realise that it is more than changing up the form of communication used. While presenting the information online is certainly more in keeping with the changing methods of communication, the Padlet is also more responsive to teaching in the digital age. It allows students and teachers to work on the project together, from any location and at the same time. This means that students are able to learn beyond the classroom and will not be disadvantaged. It also works on a social constructivist point of view, allowing students to work together at a time and place that suits them, while still enabling them to learn from each other. Perhaps working on this collaboratively out of
school hours will be more beneficial than a traditional classroom environment, as common barriers would not be present and students may feel more confident in sharing ideas. As Bill said, it is also able to be shared with the wider community. This school could then share their project with a school in the country they are discussing, who may in turn do a similar task on the home school.

Question 2:

I personally found that the deciding amongst options proforma very helpful in giving me a framework with which to write critical thinking responses. The proforma itself is helpful for structuring answers and ensuring that you have covered the entire scope of the topic you wish to talk about. It covers the basic elements that should be addressed as part of a response and provides useful launching points for further discussions. I can foresee this being useful in some assessment tasks to ensure I have covered the rubric. I found it helpful to organise my thinking and structure a comprehensive response, rather than just write out dot points.

Marghi Ghezzi

Emma's and Bill's Higher Order Thinking

Thank you Emma,

Your and Bill's replies and contributions made me reflect upon the possibility of Global Professional Networks and, in this case, Global Learning Networks. That is the big picture for the future and would be seen as the positive aspects of a future society, which is less gloomy than some of Angelica's prediction, but provides some amazing insights as to what could be...

Imagine children learning with other children asynchronously and globally.

Thank you guys!
Now, this is a great video by Dr Puentedura, SAMR 'dad':

Hi Marghi and team,

Am I missing something with the padlet task? I download the decisions proforma but then it won't let me edit it?

Thanks,

Melody

Bill Papadopoulos

RE: Activity 1: Higher Order Thinking

25 days ago
Neither could I, had to fiddle with programs from the internet that let me convert it to word and edit it that way. I’m sure just writing and scanning the proforma up would be fine. I has spare time at work to fiddle but I wouldn’t waste too much time on it.

Marghi Ghezzi

Marghi and pro-forma_Higher Order Thinking

Hello guys,

My original document, which was editable, was deleted (a mistake by a fellow pre-service teacher, totally understandable... don’t feel bad), so the ‘new’ one may not allow everybody to edit it. It depends on the programs you have in your computer. Nevertheless, I can see a few of you could use it just fine...

I had to retrieve a version, which is not the original one, sorry about that... I could go and ask for the editable version to the Learning Designer, but as simple as completing the task in a note writing form, it would be absolutely fine. That is, double click on the wall and write up your answers in a note with your own heading.

The main objective is to simply follow the pro-forma questioning and style to provide your answers. It doesn’t matter if it is not fancy, just reply in a written note. All good by me!

Bill - You are all moderators, so if you would like to upload the editable version on which you worked so hard, that would be fabulous.

Interesting, though, these are some of the challenges of working in the 'cloud': as teachers, I’d say, you have to always be ready to have an Option B (or C, D and F)... Most of the times, children will be able to ‘fix’ issues for you, though, if only I had a 7 year old in our group! 😊

Marghi :)

https://ilearn.swin.edu.au/webapps/discussionboard/do/message?action=list_messages&for...
RE: Marghi and pro-forma_Higher Order Thinking

Oh dear Marghi - I'm really sorry I think I just deleted the blank ProForma you had put up, really sorry I had just finished reading your email about someone deleting it and then I went in to put mine up and I think I accidentally made yours go away - so sorry.

Is there an undo button when using padlet? I thought I was clicking on the pro forma to edit it and when I entered something and realised it was in the wrong place I went to delete that section and the entire thing disappeared.

Hopefully it's not a major issue - If anyone else has a copy of the proforma could you please put it back up - Maybe Bill????

Sorry again Anne

Not to worry Anne!!

It happens, and hey! It will happen to our students too: one tries and we have to support one another in the ups and downs of 'trials'!

I will put it up again, but may not be easily editable: I would simply say to reply the questions in note-format, I don't mind, the important 'thing' is to give it a try 😊.

Not to worry Anne!
Nazli Huseyin

RE: Activity 1: Higher Order Thinking

I think the Padlet is an example of 'teaching beyond the line'. Students being able to access the program at their convenience, creating and modifying their own work gives students flexibility to share ideas and work with each other anywhere. The Padlet is like a virtual classroom for collaboration; adding, removing and editing tasks. Having your work saved to a location you and others that you are working with who can easily access without having to email work is convenient.

The 'deciding among options' proforma is a useful and convenient tool because it allows you to branch out your ideas to come to a decision. This tool expands the negatives and positives of the situation with the information you have and allows you to make an informed decision.

Marghi Ghezzi

Nazli on Higher Order Thinking

Thank you, Nazli,

You focused on the global access possibility provided by Padlet, which in our global learning communities is, indeed, a strong feature.

Marghi