

A6 Homework That Makes Students Think

Katie McKnight, Ph.D.

Katie@KatherineMcKnight.com

www.KatherineMcKnight.com

Twitter: @LiteracyWorld

Facebook: Katie McKnight Literacy



A Few Questions

1. How do your students study?
2. What kinds of homework do you typically assign?
3. How do you teach your students how to study in your content area?



The Basics

Teach students how to organize their time each week.

Teach students how to prioritize the tasks that they must complete.

Teach students to write it down! – Personal organizers, charts, assignment notebooks.

There are some great Web 2.0 organizers like Evernote and Livebinder




Strategies

- Remember to “front load” information and support the students’ development of new study skills.
- Review and Discuss what the students are assigned to study.



Note Taking

- ABC Brainstorm: Select a topic and/or a vocabulary term and then summarize what they know.
- 2-3 Column Notes: Cornell Notes is probably the most used and well known.




ABC
BRAINSTORM

Name _____
Date _____

Topic: _____

A	N
B	O
C	P
D	Q
E	R
F	S
G	T
H	U
I	V
J	W
K	X
L	Y
M	Z

As students brainstorm information, the ABC framework helps them organize their thoughts. Because a fact or point of information must be recorded for each letter of the alphabet, the students must dig more deeply to retrieve information for this kind of brainstorm.



Tips For Classroom Implementation

Name: _____
Date: _____
Topic: _____

CORNELL NOTES

Questions/Key points

Why is the title called "Cornell Notes"?

Why did I go to her school?

Why is there a double column?

Notes

- Record a think about the lesson and the work a right to be think.
- Record the content to write back later.
- Record the content to write back later.
- Record the content to write back later.


Summary

This article is about the medical field. It makes me the chemistry and the medical field. I like it a lot.

Model this strategy for the students and remind them of the five Rs of note taking:

1. Record the most important or emphasized information.
2. Reduce and synthesize information whenever possible, making it as concise as you can.
3. Reflect: read your notes aloud.
4. Review: consider how this information is connected to your personal experiences and what you already know.
5. Review: look over your notes more than once.

Cornell Notes are most frequently used at the high school level. Oftentimes when we assign textbooks for our students to read, they are faced with text that is densely packed with information. Cornell Notes are a structure that helps students pull out the key ideas and details.



Cornell Notes


Topic: Macbeth, Act IV, scene iii

Main Idea(s)	Details/Important Lines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macduff, Ross, and Malcolm are talking. Macduff has a bigger reason to kill Macbeth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctor informs about a disease called "evil". • King of England can't be born. • Ross tells the bad state of Scotland. • Ross lies to Macduff about family. • Ross tells Macduff about his dead family. • Malcolm says "man up".

Look back at lines 145-159 about sickness and King Edward healing the sick. What does this story have to do with the play? Hint: Think metaphor.

It is relevant because it is saying how Edward was a good king and technically making Macbeth because he is only weakening his country.

Sample from Macbeth



$f(x) = (x-4)(x+3)(x-1)^2$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

Summary:
The function of the first graph needs to have two minima and it has to be continuous. For the second function I know it will have a critical number and two curves are going to be drawn formed. I have to remember to write the parenthesis to get the right answers.

Sample from
Mathematics:
Graphing

Terms and Vocabulary

Concept or Definition Map

Vocabulary Word Maps

Name _____ Date _____

VOCABULARY SLIDE

Name _____ Date _____

CONCEPT OR VOCABULARY MAP II

What is it?

An enclosed figure with all straight sides.

What is not it?

All straight sides: Enclosed, 2-D, Triangle, Square, Rectangle, Polygon, Circle, Oval, 3-D figures.

Examples: Polygon, Square, Rectangle.

Name _____ Date _____

CONCEPT OR VOCABULARY MAP III

What is it?

Definition: Insect with segmented bodies, antennae, and 6 or more legs.

Word or concept: Invertebrate.

Examples: Ladybug, Butterfly, Groundskeeper.

Nonexamples: Spider, Mice, Cloud.

Name _____ Date _____

CONCEPT OR VOCABULARY MAP IV

What is it?

Definition: To be unwilling, to spend money.

Word or concept: Thrifty.

Examples:吝惜, 节省, A miser, A person without much money, I can't do what I'm a Christian, Carol by Charles Dickens.

Nonexamples: 挥霍, 浪费, A wealthy person, A movie star.

The word reminds me of: my dad.

Samples are from: McKnight, K. (2010). *The Teacher's Big Book of Graphic Organizers: 100 Reproducible Organizers that Help Kids with Reading, Writing, and the Content Areas*. Jossey-Bass.

Samples are from: McKnight, K. (2010). *The Teacher's Big Book of Graphic Organizers: 100 Reproducible Organizers that Help Kids with Reading, Writing, and the Content Areas*. Jossey-Bass. 12

Word Detective

- The importance of encouraging students to study words cannot be emphasized enough.
- In this center, students are prompted to research the etymology of words (and content area terms) and connect visual images to the words that they encounter.



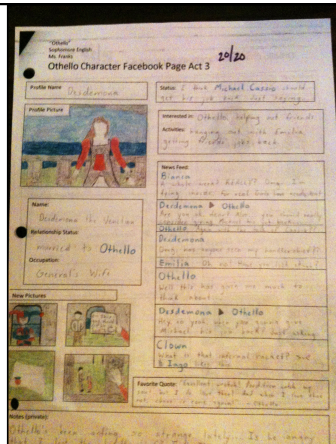
Creating Slide Shows



- www.photopeach.com



What are the instructional possibilities of a Fakebook page?



Your Turn

What super cool homework assignments do you assign your students?

Please turn to 3-4 elbow partners and share your very best homework assignment.



Some Final Reminders About Homework



- Make sure that the homework can be completed independently (Introducing new content is not a good idea.)
- Homework is an opportunity for students to practice and “play” with the content that they have learned.
- Use technology when possible---HUGE motivator for our teenagers (Edmodo, Blogs, Wikis, Photo Peach, Garage Band, Animoto, Google Docs)
- Use strategies that teach students to become more strategic readers and thinkers.



Expert training to meet your needs...

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| ✓ Differentiated Instruction | ✓ Literacy |
| ✓ Classroom Management | ✓ Math |
| ✓ Technology | ✓ Science |
| ✓ Best Practices | ✓ Social Studies |
| ✓ Intervention | ✓ Literature |
| ✓ Special Education | ✓ STEM |
| ✓ ELL | ✓ Leadership |

Seminars and Conferences

On-Site Training

Online Courses

Teacher Resources



www.SDE.com
1-877-388-2054