

1

CURIOSITY

People are curious but that doesn't make them good thinkers



Ask yourself what might be the very next step in what your students know and can do. Then think of that material as being answers and trigger their curiosity by carefully explaining the questions.

2

KNOWLEDGE

Factual knowledge comes before skills



Find out exactly what your students know, as they won't be able to think well about a particular topic if they know little about it.

3

MEMORY

Memory is the remnants of our thoughts



What will the lesson cause the students to think about? Make that the litmus test of your lesson plan.

4

UNDERSTANDING

New things are understood in terms of what we already know



What do your students know that will help them grasp new material? Although shallow knowledge precedes deeper understanding, always have depth as your goal — and make it explicit.

Daniel Willingham's

9

PRINCIPLES OF THE MIND

WHY DON'T STUDENTS LIKE SCHOOL?
pp.210–211



5

PROFICIENCY

To become proficient entails plenty of practice

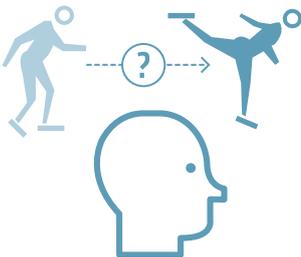


How can you design student practice and still avoid boredom? Make your students practise those things they will need readily at their fingertips.

6

COGNITION

Novices and experts think differently

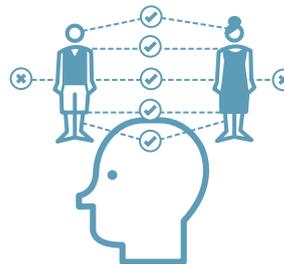


How far are your students from being experts? Aim for them to develop a deep understanding — not the creation of new knowledge.

7

DIFFERENCES

Students have more in common with each other than differences



Finding out your students' learning styles is simply unnecessary. Focus instead on the content of your lessons in order to decide how to teach.

8

INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence is malleable — hard work can improve it.

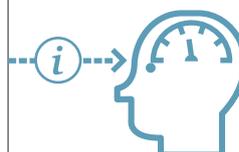


Do you know what your students believe about intelligence? Frame your talk about success and failure in terms of effort, not ability.

9

TEACHING

Teaching is a complex cognitive skill that improves with practice



Experience alone is not enough to ensure improvement — it also needs conscious effort and feedback.