The Art of Engaging Students through Critical Thinking

Rob Jenkins & Staci Johnson
CATESOL 2018
ESL-Teacher.net
Building Community
Critical Thinking
“Nurturing our students is not giving them everything. We are good instructors when we nurture their creativity, critical thinking skills, and independence ultimately leading them to become independent lifelong learners.”

Jenkins (2008)

Survey
REAL Critical Thinking
One sentence definition Activity

“Tasks that require learners to think deeper than the superficial vocabulary and meaning”.

Rob Jenkins 2016
RANK – most to least nutritious diet

#1

#2

#3

#4

#5
REAL Critical Thinking in Collaborative Groups
Project-Based / Problem-Based Learning

Project-based learning puts students in the position to use authentic language to communicate and produce a product or solve a problem. (Fried-Booth)

In teams students negotiate, plan and organize, practicing skills essential to living successful lives. (Stein)
Cartoon City is a small city. There are 3000 people in our city. We have 300 houses, 500 apartments, and mobile home place. We have also amusement park. Its name is Toon Town. Many peoples like our city because fun for peoples.

The climate here is beautiful. It is sunny every day. The streets in our city are interesting. We have Toon Street, Looney Avenue, Superman Street, and Spiderman Blvd.

Please come to our city. We have big hotel and many tourists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Alejandro Vega</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Planner</td>
<td>Marisa Hernandez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity Specialist</td>
<td>Trang Nguyen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spokesperson</td>
<td>Leticia Bravo</td>
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REAL Critical Thinking
College and Career Readiness Standards

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening
Critical Thinking Quick Adjustments

- analyzing data (graphs, charts)
- classifying
- collaborating over a problem
- comparing (VENN, Johari, charts)
- defining concepts
- evaluating information with a rubric
- individually solving problems
- predicting outcomes
- ranking
- reaching consensus
- summarizing concepts
Thank You!

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