

Strategy Scenario

Strategy: Mnemonics

Content: Instructional Design

Title: Gagne's Nine Events of Instruction

Time Required: 10 minutes

Number of Participants: 20

Target Audience: IDD graduate students.

Goal of Activity: To memorize Gagne's 9 events of instruction for regurgitation during comps.

Purpose of Script: To illustrate the use of mnemonics in instructional design.

Learning Outcome(s), Gagne's Taxonomy: Intellectual skills.

Learning outcome(s), HEO Taxonomy: Knowledge

Learner Characteristics: Overworked, middle age adult graduate students lacking spare brain cells.

Entry Skills: Reading.

Setting: Classroom

Media: Flip charts, or white board. Overhead projector.

Process:

1. The instructor presents Gagne's 9 events of instruction with the standard lecture on the purpose of each event with examples of each. The instructor then gives a mnemonic for memorizing the events.
2. The events are:
 - i. Gain Attention
 - ii. Inform the learner of the Objectives
 - iii. Stimulate Recall of prerequisite learning
 - iv. Present stimulus material
 - v. Provide learning Guidance
 - vi. Elicit performance
 - vii. Provide Feedback
 - viii. Assess the performance
 - ix. Provide Practice to enhance retention and transfer.
3. Several mnemonics come to mind. Using the first letters of each verb, imagine a very southern person saying "Ah is peppy, pappy." **A**ttention

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Inform **S**timulate **P**resent **P**rovide **E**licit **P**rovide **A**ssess **P**rovide. That doesn't exactly address the meat.

4. Using the words that best address the meat, you get **A**ttention **O**bjectives **R**ecall **S**timulus **G**uidance **P**erformance **F**eedback **A**ssess **P**ractice. "**A**gents **O**f **R**ussia **S**eldom **G**et **P**aid **F**or **A**ssassinating **P**easants."

Strategy Assessment:

Let them study the mnemonic for 5 minutes, then list the 9 events on a sheet of paper.

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References:

West, C., Farmer, J., & Wolff, P. (1991). *Instructional Design: implications from cognitive science*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.