

Strategy: Mnemonics

Content: Navigation Lights

Title: Boating Rules of the Road

Time Required: 30 minutes

Number of Participants: 20 to 30

Target Audience: Sailors

Goal of Activity: The learner will use a mnemonic to identify masthead patterns that is in accordance with the Rules of the Road.

Purpose of Activity: To identify masthead patterns, that indicate the operational status of a boat.

Learning Outcome(s), Gagne's Taxonomy: Verbal Information

Learning Outcome(s), HEO Taxonomy: Cognitive Domain

Learner Characteristics: Boat owners enrolled in a boating course.

Entry Skills: None

Setting: Classroom

Media: Overhead Projector  
Red Dry Erase Markers  
Blank Transparencies

Process:

1. The instructor uses examples of various mnemonics of boat running lights explain how they can be used to identify masthead patterns.
2. On the overhead the instructor draws two vertical circles and colors the middle red.
3. Under the circles the instructor writes the mnemonic " Red over Red, The captain is dead".
4. The instructor explains that this masthead light pattern represents a vessel "not under command".
5. The students repeat the mnemonic until it is learned.

6. The instructor shows the students pictures of various masthead patterns with different colors. Students are to recite the mnemonic when the red over red is displayed.

Strategy Assessment: Students will be able to identify the masthead pattern red over red and recite their own corresponding mnemonic.

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Reference: West, C.K., Farmer, J.A., & Wolff, P.M. (1991). Instructional Design: Implications from Cognitive Science, Boston: Allyn and Bacon.