

Baby Steps: Mapping To Better Writing

PROCESS WRITING APPROACH

Teachers have always been interested in strategies or techniques to improve the teaching of writing in school. Generally, students are not quite interested in extended writing although their curriculum states a need for it. This disinterest could be attributed to several factors such as they have difficulty to express their thoughts, ideas or arguments because of their language competency or lack of; and also because the present era of instant SMS messages does not naturally lend itself to extended writing. Thus, this course is designed to offer teachers a strategy to help them facilitate their students' practice of extended writing through a tool that would aid in tracing the thinking that occurs during the pre-writing stage.

Objectives

At the end of the course, participants would have:

- A more insightful understanding of a 'learning task' during writing
- Explored and examined various stages of a 'learning task'
- Better understanding of 'teacher fading'
- Been exposed to feedback techniques during conferencing

- Experienced collaborative brainstorming sessions
- Been sensitized to information strategies

Content

The content of the course will be as follows:

- The brain and the learning process
- Adaptations of the Process-Product approach in writing
- Mind maps for writing

Duration

3 days (18 contact hours)

Modes of Delivery

The course will be conducted through a series of interactive lectures, demonstrations, modeling, workshops, simulation activities and group discussions and presentations. Participants will be required to build a file of classroom materials and activities.

Participants

The course is meant for TESL-trained teachers and non-optionist teachers teaching English at the lower Secondary school level.