

THE FLIPPED LEARNING SERIES

flipped
learning
for
English
INSTRUCTION

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with

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Contents

Preface x

Chapter 1

Why You Should Flip Your Class 1

Flipped Class 101 3

The One Question 5

Beyond the Flipped Class 6

Chapter 2

Flipped Class 101 9

Flipping Your Thinking 10

Technological Barriers of the Flipped Classroom 13

Finding the Time 24

Training Students, Parents and Yourself 26

Chapter 3

Planning for the Flipped Classroom 31

Flipping a Unit 32

Flipping a Week 38

Flipping a Day 40

Rethinking Class Time 41

Traditional Resources 42

Keeping Students Engaged 44

Skills Training 47

Chapter 4

Flipping Reading 49

Fiction 51

Nonfiction 54

Poetry 55

Chapter 5

Flipping Writing 57

Mentor Texts 58

Workshops 59

Group Tutorials 61

Peer Editing 63

Chapter 6

Flipping Grammar and Vocabulary 65

Using Tech Tools to Flip Grammar 66

Flipping Grammar 68

Flipping Vocabulary 69

Chapter 7

Choice 71

Choice Boards 73

Managing the Chaos 76

Chapter 8

Projects and Genius Hour 79

Projects 80

Genius Hour or 20% Time 85

Chapter 9

Mastery, Gamification and Inquiry 89

Flipped-Mastery 90

Gamification 95

Inquiry 96

Chapter 10

Conclusion 101

References 109

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Thoughtful planning leads to thoughtful teaching, a process that is helpful to those who often “fly by the seats of their pants”, including us. Before flipping our classes we often walked in and “taught” what we wanted, or just explained what was next in the curriculum. When we got serious about the flipped classroom, we realised we had to be much more organised about how we were teaching. This one exercise dramatically helped us think through what was taught, how it was taught and what things we should stop teaching.

Flipping a Week

Once a unit has been planned, how does one plan for a week in the flipped model? In many ways a teacher’s planning cycle does not need to change too dramatically. If a teacher has a flipped video they have created or curated, they simply need to build in a few extra steps to ensure that students *interact* with the video rather than just passively *watch*. Here are a few suggestions on how to modify a typical weekly planning guide with the flip in mind:

Give Extra Time and/or Advance Notice. Don’t assign a video on one night and expect all students will

R.A.F.T. GRAPHIC ORGANISER	
<p>R – Role of the writer (Who or what are you?)</p> <p>A – Audience for the writer (To whom or what are you writing?)</p> <p>F – Format of the writing (What form will your writing assume?)</p> <p>T – Topic (What are you writing about?)</p>	
<p>Role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odysseus • Penelope • Telemachus 	<p>Audience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penelope • Odysseus • Telemachus
<p>Format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diary entry • Letter Home • Words of wisdom/memoir 	<p>Topic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on how to be a true Greek man/king • Worries/concerns about life in Ithaca

FIGURE 7.2. April Gudenrath's R.A.F.T. graphic organiser for Homer's *Odyssey*.

Creating choice boards and the corresponding activities will take a considerable amount of time. We do not recommend that teachers who are new to the flipped class start with choice boards. Developing a library of videos and getting quality activities in class needs to be the first priority, but as a teacher moves along choice can be a powerful addition to their class.