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Characteristics of Deep Learning

Deep Learning

Definition

Acquisition of new content or skills that must be learned in more than one step and with multiple levels of analysis or processing so that students may apply the content/skills in ways that change thinking, or behaviors

Examples

- Reading Critically
- Incorporating multidisciplinary learning
- Solving problems
- Creating goals and devising strategies to achieve those goals
- Applying learning by completing a project
- Refining debate and research skills
- Communicating effectively both orally and in writing
- Delving deeply into content areas

Impact on Learners

- Challenges the learner to use complex knowledge
- Requires greater understanding, retention and application
- Engages learner actively in the learning
- Provides opportunities for the learner to utilize communication and problem-solving skills
- Helps the learner become independent
- Incorporates assessment as an integral part of the learning process
- Encourages self-directed learning
- Fosters global competence
- Engages the learner in meaningful and relevant projects
- Helps the learner assimilate prior knowledge and new information
- Incorporates multidisciplinary learning which may include the arts
- Promotes collaboration with learners

Synonyms

Higher-level thinking, complex processing, multilevel abstract thinking, divergent thinking, creative thinking, critical thinking, most multistep habits, and problem solving

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Excerpted from Jensen, Eric and LeAnn Nickelsen, Deeper Learning, 7 Powerful Strategies for In-Depth and Longer Lasting Learning, 2008.