

Reflecting on what happened during a lesson

The following questions were designed by Richards and Ho to give trainees some guidance for their teaching journals, but they can of course also be used in any discussion of a lesson.

1. What did you set out to teach?
2. Were you able to accomplish your goals?
3. What teaching materials did you use?
4. How effective were they?
5. What techniques did you use?
6. What grouping arrangements did you use?
7. Was your lesson teacher-dominated?
8. What kind of teacher-student interaction occurred?
9. Did anything amusing or unusual occur?
10. Did you have any problems with the lesson?
11. Did you do anything differently from usual?
12. What kinds of decision making did you employ?
13. Did you depart from your lesson plan? If so, why?
14. Did the change make things better or worse?
15. What was the main accomplishment of the lesson?
16. Which parts of the lesson were most successful?
17. Which were least successful?
18. Would you teach the lesson differently if you taught it again?
19. Was your philosophy of teaching reflected in the lesson?
20. Did you discover anything new about your teaching?
21. What changes do you think you should make in your teaching?

Questions about the students:

1. Did you teach all your students today?
2. Did students contribute actively to the lesson?
3. How did they respond to different students' needs?
4. Were they challenged by the lesson?
5. What do you think students really learned from the lesson?
6. What did they like most about it?
7. What didn't they respond well to?