How to select sources: a vocabulary exercise

Summary

Students will be introduced to vocabulary used to effectively evaluate print and digital sources.

Main Core Tie

English Language Arts Grade 8
Writing Standard 8

Additional Core Ties

English Language Arts Grade 9-10
Writing Standard 8
Secondary Library Media (6-12)
Strand 3: Standard 2:

Time Frame

1 class periods of 45 minutes each

Group Size

Individual

Life Skills

Thinking & Reasoning

Materials

Worksheet (attached)
Source access (print, web, personal)
Technology (computer, laptop, Internet-connected device)

Background for Teachers

Students will be accessing a variety of sources to discover vocabulary definitions. This process may involve some frustration and struggles as students seek out their own sources. This sets up the follow-up discussion.

Student Prior Knowledge

Students need to know how to operate a web browser, search engine, mobile apps, and print sources.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to discover sources, define terms, and discuss vocabulary terms. Students will use a variety of sources to find information. Students will evaluate and apply the vocabulary terms used in this process.

Instructional Procedures

Warm-up (optional). Introduce suffix definition of "-ity." Add this suffix to an on-going list of prefix/suffix. Provide definition & examples (not from today's list of vocabulary).
Vocabulary Worksheet. Distribute document (on paper, via Google classroom, etc.). Students

follow instructions on document.

Worksheet discussion. Use varied discussion strategies, i.e. Coop-learning, etc. Discuss with student s the process of locating & selecting sources, and definitions. Apply the definitions of the vocabulary list to the process of discovering the definitions. For example, "How reliable was the source you used to find the definition of reliable?" etc. etc.

Strategies for Diverse Learners

Provide a list of potential sources (web, print, personal) for low-achieving or at-risk students.

Assessment Plan

The worksheet should be complete with correct, standard definitions with listed sources. Students should engage in meaningful dialogue with others about the activity.

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