

## Samples of Satisfactory and Unsatisfactory Postings

Please review the following samples of satisfactory and unsatisfactory Postings. Refer to the ***Discussion Posting Criteria*** for specific guidelines.

<b>Discussion: Discuss how the strategy of using Learning Logs was implemented in your classroom.</b>
<b>Sample Posting #1: Satisfactory</b>
Today we made Learning Logs for our Reading classes. Students were instructed to reflect at the end of the class (the last 5 minutes) on the skill we learned today, "Context Clues". In their reflections students were asked what they learned about context clues and how they would be able to use this skill when coming across words they were not familiar with in their reading materials. Students were asked to think how they might use context clues in other content area classes, i.e. Social Studies, and Science. Many of the students were anxious to share their learning log entries and expressed a need to add more after hearing some of their classmate's entries. Students gave many examples of areas where they could use the skill outside the reading class. One girl even wrote and shared she could use the skill when reading the newspaper. For the most part the children were eager to write down what they had learned in class. Before they left the children were reminded to bring their learning logs to class every day for continued reflections on the daily lessons.
<b>Sample Posting #1: Unsatisfactory</b> (Lacks demonstration of knowledge.)
<i>I used the Learning Logs with my class. Nice strategy. They had a good response to the experience and I will continue to use this in the future. My class has been difficult this year and I find that if I can introduce new ideas they seem to respond.</i>
<b>Discussion: Post your classroom observations and comments in the Discussion area under Week 3 about the content you taught. Just a short note will do. Sometimes the lessons will go well - RAINBOWS and sometimes they may not - RAINDROPS. Please share what happened with your class so that others may benefit.</b>
<b>Sample Posting #2: Satisfactory</b>
Today we discussed simple machines and focused on the incline plane. We wanted to answer the question- Does the length of an incline plane effect the distance the car with roll? After we cleared all our tables to the perimeter of the room, I divided my students in 6 groups. 3 groups had short poster board, 3 had longer poster board.  We discussed what an incline was and they came up with the idea of putting books (the same amount) in a stack to make their ramp. Each team rolled its car on either a long/short ramp and measured the results in cm. Then they moved to the other ramp (long or short depending on what they used with their first tests) and again measured the distances in cm. They wrote their test results on paper. We discussed variables and controls and the students discovered what the control was in the activity and what the variables were. Tomorrow we will write up our experiment. This was a rainbow activity. Again math and science were integrated and the kids had a great time.
<b>Sample Posting #2: Unsatisfactory:</b> (Lacks demonstration of knowledge.)
<i>My class completed the experiment for this week and learned from the activity. I like doing these experiments with my students but I have difficulty finding the time. We spend a great deal of time on test prep throughout the day and most of that is reading</i>

<i>and writing. It is hard to keep the students motivated and on task.</i>
<b>Discussion Posting: Apply the strategy of the Perspective Log with your class. Discuss the success or challenges you had with this lesson.</b>
<b>Sample Posting #3: Satisfactory</b>
<p>I did a perspective log with two of my tenth grade English classes. I asked the students to pretend they were a desk in the classroom. I asked them to write about what the desk might be thinking or feeling. I got some great responses, although several were not quite ready to comment about this particular class. Many of them wrote from the point of view of a desk in another one of their classes.</p> <p>Next week, I am going to have them write another perspective log: "Pretend you are Mr. X, your English teacher. What are your (Mr. X's) thoughts and feelings about you (the student)?" Perhaps this could be a good learning experience for the students, as they don't often see themselves through other people's eyes.</p>
<b>Sample Posting #3: Unsatisfactory</b> (Lacks demonstration of knowledge.)
<i>This has really been a hectic week. I like Rita's ideas and plan to use them in my class. I have tried several of the strategies and find that some of my students respond to them. I wish that I had more time to try them with other classes. I have several difficult students in this class. It seems like they take up all the extra time that I have and I cannot do the kinds of lesson that I want engage them with.</i>
<b>Discussion Posting: Based on the video and readings for this week, discuss one aspect of "Brain Based Learning" that you have applied in your classroom.</b>
<b>Sample Posting #4 : Satisfactory</b>
<p>I agree. Brain based research suggests that students learn more if they are not in the same seat all the time. I think that many new teachers do not realize the importance of selecting the appropriate seat for each and every student based on their emotional, academic, physical and behavioral needs. One reference suggested that the teacher "sit" in each seat of the class to be sure that the student could see the teacher, board and any other important part of the class set up. I think that sometimes when kids get a new seat in the room it gives them a new look at their learning day. I have applied a weekly rotating system for seating with my class this quarter. It will be interesting to see what effect it will have on the class.</p>
<b>Sample Posting #4: Unsatisfactory:</b> (Lacks respect for fellow participants.)
<i>It does not sound like you have read the material regarding this strategy. If you spend more time planning the activity, you would have more success.</i>