

Authentic Learning Materials

	Yes/ No	Notes (How would you implement it?)
<p>1. Provide authentic contexts (either physical or virtual) that reflect the way the knowledge is used in real life.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve the complexity of the real-world setting. • Provide the purpose and motivation for learning. • Allow ideas, concepts, and skills to be formed in the context of real situations. <p>Examples: Present real-world problems, such as lack of justice, climate change, and so on, in a simulation.</p>		
<p>2. Provide authentic tasks and activities that are relevant to students' lives.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide clear goals and real-world relevance. • Promote production of knowledge rather than reproduction. • Provide complex and ill-defined problems. <p>Examples: Plan a simulated trip to a country being studied; design a play for a literature unit being studied.</p>		
<p>3. Provide access to expert performance and process modeling.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to the way an expert would think and act. • Provide assessment to learners in various levels of expertise. • Provide opportunities for the sharing of narratives and stories. <p>Examples: Use online websites for access to expert opinions, lectures, and presentations in podcasts or TED Talks.</p>		
<p>4. Provide multiple roles and perspectives.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide multiple perspectives, not just a single perspective such as a textbook. • Use powerful search tools to encourage a range of views. • Provide varied forms of media on the web. <p>Examples: Use online search engines, databases, libraries, and newspaper editorials.</p>		

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<p>5. Provide opportunities for joint problem solving and social support for collaborative construction of knowledge.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have students work in teams or pairs rather than individually. • Construct learning activities for student groups, not individuals. <p>Examples: Apply online collaborative writing tools such as wikis, Dropbox, blogs, and Blackboard.</p>		
<p>6. Promote reflection to think about and discuss choices.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities to make choices. • Provide opportunities to reflect in journals and diaries. <p>Examples: Write journal and diary entries.</p>		
<p>7. Promote articulation to make tacit knowledge explicit.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present an argument to defend a position or idea with evidence, either orally or in writing. <p>Examples: Work with an online forum such as Twitter; develop documentaries, blogs, presentations, and posters.</p>		
<p>8. Provide coaching and scaffolding at critical times.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not attempt to transmit knowledge. • Rather than lecture, take a supportive and facilitative role. <p>Examples: Show students the outcome or product before they complete it; use think-alouds, graphic organizers, and questioning.</p>		
<p>9. Provide for authentic assessment of learning within tasks.</p> <p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate assessment and learning activities. • Provide opportunities to craft polished performances. • Extend periods of time for finishing tasks. <p>Examples: Develop projects, portfolios, presentations, and reports.</p>		

Source: Adapted from Herrington, J., Reeves, T. C., & Oliver, R. (2010). A guide to authentic e-learning. New York: Routledge.