

The following exemplar has been developed to demonstrate one of the ways the application can be used or presented in the classroom.

Interacting: Teaching a Lesson or Unit of Work

Background information

In this application you will develop and apply your skills of interacting with others outside the classroom context. You will be required to interact for 1-2 hours with a younger group of students, either in this school or another school of your choice. The interaction could be a single interaction or a series of shorter interactions that are based on a single focus. Deciding on an appropriate topic for your lesson plan or unit of work will be a very important part of the process and you will need to discuss your ideas with me before you begin. Keeping a journal throughout this study is highly advisable.

A key aspect of this study is your ability to organise and sustain the kind of contact necessary to record and reflect on the nature of the interaction. If your initial plans prove difficult or impossible to carry out, you are expected to show the initiative and flexibility to vary your planning in order to complete the required amount and quality of interaction.

At the end of this study you will be required to produce a **written report** and an **oral presentation**.

Choosing a topic

A good starting point is to write down a range of topics you feel confident you could teach or present to a group of students. Here are some questions that may help you to decide.

- ?? Do you want to conduct one interaction or more than one?
- ?? Will you work with a large group or a smaller group?
- ?? What would you like the students to have achieved by the end of your time with them?
- ?? Will it be an indoor or outdoor activity?
- ?? Are your plans achievable? Are there too many opportunities for things to go wrong?
- ?? Do you need to speak to someone about what is appropriate for your chosen age group?
- ?? Does your activity require equipment or facilities you do not have?

Once you have brainstormed some ideas, I would like to speak to each student individually to discuss your plans and get you on your way!

The interaction

Once you have decided what you would like to do, you need to start contacting the appropriate people. Remember that, if things are not set up well in the beginning, you will run into problems later. Here are some things you need to consider when arranging your lesson or unit of work.

- ?? Contact the school and/or teacher to introduce yourself.
- ?? Explain what your Interacting Study involves and what you would like to achieve with the students.
- ?? Be prepared to be flexible with the school or teacher so you can fit in with their requirements if necessary.
- ?? Arrange a time, or times, to conduct your interacting.
- ?? Write out your lesson plan, or plans, and discuss them with me or with the contact teacher.
- ?? Make arrangements for any photocopying, equipment, room bookings, etc prior to your lesson(s).
- ?? After each interaction, record what happened for future reference.
- ?? Do not throw anything away because it may come in handy when you come to write your report or make the oral presentation.

WRITTEN REPORT

Upon completion of your interaction you must submit a written report of no more than 1000 words. Your report must include the following:

A record of the interaction and process.

It would be a good idea to draw up a table and keep a record of what you do and with whom you interact as you organise your interaction. You could use the information from the table for your report. Consider the following when writing your report:

- ?? what did you do to organise your activity/lesson?
- ?? who did you have to interact with in order for the activity/lesson to proceed?

A summary of the findings.

Give a summary of what happened during your interaction.

What did you find out about teaching/cross-age tutoring?

You may include photos in your report but they must be referred to in the text, or have a caption that is relevant to the text.

Any lesson plans, worksheets, student response sheets, thank you notes, letters, etc can be included as appendices with the report.

If you have used any books, videos, internet sites or other sources of information, then a bibliography must also be included.

ORAL PRESENTATION

You are required to prepare and deliver an oral presentation of 4 to 6 minutes. In the presentation you should reflect on:

- ?? the language of the interaction and its effectiveness;
- ?? the use of language in this context;
- ?? key elements of the interaction that affect its overall quality;
- ?? suggested alternative strategies to improve further interactions.

It is crucial that you hand in the journal, notes, cue cards, etc as supporting materials for your oral presentation.

Criteria for Judging Performance

Your overall mark for interacting will be based on the written report and the oral presentation and how well you have achieved the following criteria:

- ?? clarity in identifying the conventions, structures and features of a range of forms of expression and communication; (ie the various forms of communication used before or during the interaction to achieve the purpose)
- ?? ability to apply skills in producing an example of a selected form of expression or communication; (ie the actual interaction and/or the written report)
- ?? reflective understanding of how the conventions of a particular form of expression or communication shape texts;
- ?? imagination, versatility and originality in the composition of your own texts;
- ?? accuracy and fluency in writing;
- ?? clarity and fluency in oral communication.