

Student Engagement Protocols

Admit and Exit Tickets

Purpose

At the end of class, students write on note cards or slips of paper an important idea they learned, a question they have, a prediction about what will come next, or a thought about the lesson for the day. Alternatively, students turn-in such a response at the start of the next day—either based on the learning from the day before or the previous night's homework. These quick writes can be used to assess students' knowledge or to make decisions about next teaching steps or points that need clarifying.

This reflection helps students to focus as they enter the classroom or solidifies learning before they leave.

Procedure

1. For 2–3 minutes at the end of class (or the start of the next one) have students jot responses to the reading or lesson on 3 x 5 note cards.
2. Keep the response options simple, e.g. “Jot down one thing you learned and one question you have.”
3. A variation is known as 3-2-1: Have students write three of something, two of something, then one of something. For example, students might explain three things they learned, two areas in which they are confused, and one thing about which they'd like to know more or one way the topic can be applied. The criteria for listing items are up to the needs of the teacher and the lesson, but it's important to make the category for three items easier than the category for listing one item.
4. Don't let the cards become a grading burden. Glance over them for a quick assessment and to help you with planning for next learning needs. These are simply quick writes, not final drafts.
5. After studying the “deck” you might pick-out a few typical/unique/thought-provoking cards to spark discussion.
6. Cards could be typed up (maybe nameless) to share with the whole group to help with summarizing, synthesizing, or looking for important ideas. It is a good idea to let students know ahead of time as they may put more effort into the write-up. When typing, go ahead and edit for spelling and grammar.