The Graffiti Model

The Graffiti Model is a cooperative learning structure in which students are asked to give written responses to the questions posed by the teacher. The Graffiti Model is an excellent way to check for understanding, or to evaluate the effectiveness of one’s instructional delivery. It is also a way to reinforce what has been taught, or to do an informal assessment of what students have understood and retained from a given lesson or unit.

General steps to the graffiti model of teaching

Step 1 - Prepare Graffiti Questions: The teacher prepares questions and divides students into study groups, or students can organize themselves into small study groups. The teacher prepares a limited number of review questions (say 4-5) – [this can also be done by a committee of students]

Step 2 - Distribute Materials: Each student uses a different colored marker, or a different color Post-it or colored file card. Responses can also be recorded on a large piece of paper that has been divided into quadrants or segments whereby each student scribes his or her answers in a different color. This method of color coding differentiation allows students to keep track or trace their responses.

Step 3 - Answer Questions: At the end of a timed interval, questions are exchanged and this continues until each team has had an opportunity to answer all the questions.

Step 4 - Exchange Questions: Teams exchange question responses and the process continues until all teams have read all of the other teams’ responses. Teams are encouraged to note new or different information from other teams.

Step 5 - Return to Original Questions: Teams get their original response sheets back and review all their original answers. They arrange their answers into categories and arrive at generalizations and additions based on reading and studying other teams’ responses.

Step 6 - Share Information: Groups then share materials with the whole class noting new information learned through sharing sessions.

Examples and Resources:

Graffiti Model Lesson Plans: Example #1; Example #2; Example #3

- https://k12teacherstaffdevelopment.com/tlb/can-graffiti-be-used-to-facilitate-learning/
- https://klru.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/ketae.pd.graffiti/model-lesson-graffiti-fence/#.Xk3eOChKhPY