Ideas for Differentiating Instruction—Readiness

Content

- Provide resources and supplemental materials at varying levels of readability, such as the following.
 - Textbooks

- Diaries or historical journals
- Speeches

- Newspaper articles
- Technical manuals
- Documents

Magazine articles

Novels (chapters)

- Computer software
- Lab reports

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Websites

• Science periodicals

- Short stories
- · Consider the amount of reading.
- Adjust what material to teach students.

Process

- · Provide word labels.
- Provide vocabulary lists at varying levels of challenge for students to incorporate in their writing or speaking.
- · Modify or extend directions.
- Partially complete a graphic organizer.
- Assign appropriately challenging graphic organizers, templates, and frames.
- Create an assignment using cloze procedure.
- Create tiered assignments that vary by level of challenge. (As a management tip, use color-coding or symbols.)
- Consider the amount of writing.
- Allow extra time to complete assignments.
- Consider pacing adjustments to eliminate instruction of skills and concepts that students have previously shown to have mastered.
- Provide reference materials at varying levels of readiness (different kinds of thesauruses, online resources, and dictionaries).
- · Create or find games and appropriately assign them to individuals, pairs, or groups based on readiness.
- Assign particular electronic tools and apps.
- Assign jigsaw reading to groups based on readiness levels.
- · Assign students to specific learning centers.
- Teach or reteach a skill, concept, or topic for selected students in need of honing targeted learning.
- Enrich learning to higher achievers ready for more sophistication or extensions.
- · Issue multiple levels of questioning.
- · Assign homework at varying levels of difficulty.
- Assign varied journal prompts according to readiness.
- Preselect websites and assign to students as they investigate a research question.
- Issue appropriately challenging sets of manipulatives and prompts.
- Provide tiered RAFT assignments (role, audience, format, and topic).

Product

- Create tiered products that vary by level of challenge.
- Create and issue RAFT products based on readiness.
- Create rubrics for different levels of learners, while keeping in mind overall standards.