Training for the New Georgia Performance Standards
Days 6: Differentiation

Participant’s Guide
ELA 9-12

We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.
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Acknowledgements

This training program was developed by the Georgia Department of Education as part of a series of professional development opportunities to help teachers increase student achievement through the use of the Georgia Performance Standards.

For more information on this or other GPS training modules, please contact Gerald Boyd at (404) 463-1933 or gboyd@doe.k12.ga.us.

Use of This Guide

The module materials, including a Leader's Guide, Participant's Guide, PowerPoint Presentation, and supplementary materials, are available to designated trainers throughout the state of Georgia who have successfully completed a Train-the-Trainer course offered through the Georgia Department of Education.
Agenda

This is a one-day course, with approximately 6 hours of instructional time.

Prior Preparation—Participants

- Bring a copy of an instructional unit for a class you are currently teaching.

Introduction to Differentiation ................................................................................. 1½ hours

- Five Best Bits from Days 1-5 of GPS Training
- Calvin’s Day at School
- Defining Differentiation, An Introduction
- Looking Inside Our Classrooms

The What, How, and Why of Differentiation .............................................................. 3½ hours

- Overview of What, How, and Why of Differentiation
- Guided Practice Analyzing a Differentiated Task
- Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game

The Teacher’s Role in a Differentiated Classroom.................................................... 1 hour

- Rethinking Our Roles
- Setting Personal Goals for Differentiating
Module Goal

Demonstrate a deep understanding of the new Georgia Performance Standards and the standards-based education approach, through thoughtful curriculum planning, development of formative and summative assessments, and the design of instruction matched to the standards and research-based best practices. This shall be measured by student performance on progress monitoring and standardized criterion-referenced tests.

Key words from the goal:

- Deep understanding
- Georgia Performance Standards (GPS)
- Standards-based education
- Research-based best practices

Note that the goal will not be reached by any single day of training. It will take preparation, follow up, and eight days of classroom instruction to master this goal.

Module Objectives

By the end of Day 6 of training, participants will be able to:

1. Define differentiation and explain the importance of differentiation in the standards-based education process.

2. Explain key elements in planning for differentiation.

3. Describe and develop procedures for differentiating instruction in a flexible classroom.

4. Describe the roles of the teacher in a differentiated classroom.

5. Set individual goals for differentiating instruction in each classroom.
Specialists’ Contact Information

For a list of district coordinators visit the Georgia Learning Connection:

- English Language Learners
  [http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=ESOL+District+Coordinators](http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=ESOL+District+Coordinators)

- Gifted and Talented
  [http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=Gifted+Education](http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=Gifted+Education)

For specialists at the Georgia Department of Education:

- English Language Learners—Victoria Webbert
  [vwebbert@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:vwebbert@doe.k12.ga.us)

- Gifted and Talented—Dr. Sally Krisel
  [skrisel@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:skrisel@doe.k12.ga.us)

- Exceptional Students (Special Education)—Deborah Keane
  [dkeane@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dkeane@doe.k12.ga.us)
What Does Differentiation Look Like, A T/F Quiz

Directions: Mark the item T if it is TRUE for a differentiated classroom or F if it is FALSE for a differentiated classroom. After you have responded individually, compare your answers to the others in your table group. When you disagree, discuss your various points and attempt to reach consensus.

_____ 1. All students in the class completing the same work for a unit/chapter.

_____ 2. Assessing students before a unit of instruction to determine what they already know.

_____ 3. Adjusting the core curriculum by content (below to above grade level).

_____ 4. Limiting how and what is taught by teaching to the average student.

_____ 5. Providing assignments tailored for students of different levels of achievement.

_____ 6. Having high expectations for ALL students.

_____ 7. Providing educational experiences which extend, replace, or supplement standard curriculum.

_____ 8. Assigning more work at the same level to high achieving students.

_____ 9. Focusing on student weaknesses and ignoring student strengths.

_____ 10. Providing activities that all students will be able to do.

_____ 11. Structuring class assignments so they require high levels of critical thinking and allow for a range of responses.

_____ 12. Giving the same kind of problems or questions and expecting more.

_____ 13. Creating more work-extra credit, to do when done.

_____ 14. Students participating in respectful work.

_____ 15. Putting students in situations where they don't know the answer- often.


_____ 17. Providing free-time challenge activities.

_____ 18. Differing the pace of instruction.
_____ 19. Using capable students as tutors.
_____ 20. Using higher standards when grading.
_____ 21. Including a blend of whole class, group, and independent learning.
_____ 22. Using individualized instruction.
Some Underlying Assumptions of Differentiated Instruction

Read each assumption and assess your own “way of thinking about teaching” by marking the star if this assumption is implicit in your practice throughout the unit, the smiley face if you’ve taken this assumption into consideration in some way for this unit, and the question mark if you need to think about your practice in terms of this assumption.

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<tr>
<th>The Underlying Assumption</th>
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<td>1. I have planned this unit to accommodate multiple and varied learning needs (social as well as cognitive), rather than attempting to accommodate them after student frustration or failure.</td>
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<td>2. I work to create and maintain a classroom community where students feel safe and valued as they are; at the same time I support each student in order to maximize his or her potential.</td>
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<td>3. I interact with each student with positive regard and positive expectations.</td>
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<td>4. I recognize every student has both talents and areas of need, and I emphasize the student’s strengths rather than accentuating labels, deficits, or differences. At the same time, I do not call attention to the differentiation, but rather I help students appreciate varied ways in which all of them can find personal success with important goals.</td>
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<td>5. I use multiple and alternative forms of assessment at all stages of student learning in this unit in order to uncover and address a full range of learning needs and strengths.</td>
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<td>6. I gather and employ knowledge and information about my students in order to identify and address their varied readiness levels, interests, and learning profiles during this unit.</td>
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<td>7. I find ways to provide access for all students to meaningful and powerful ideas, information, and skills in this unit rather than reducing the standards, watering down the curriculum, or assigning busy work.</td>
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<td>8. I use multiple methods in this unit to engage students in active learning. Although I may employ whole-class instruction, I know that differentiation does not take place during whole class instruction.</td>
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<td>9. I work to develop classroom management skills that allow 1) multiple tasks to proceed smoothly in the classroom, 2) students to take increasing responsibility for their learning, and 3) the time to monitor student activity and coach for student growth and quality work.</td>
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Range of Activities in a Differentiated Classroom

Classroom Instructional Arrangements

Whole Class Activities

- Pre-assessment Explorations (readiness/interest)
- Introduction
- Planning
- Sharing
- Wrap-up of Concepts

Small-Group Activities (Pairs, Triads, Quads)

- Sense-Making
- Teaching Skills
- Directed Reading
- Planning
- Investigation

Individualized Activities

- Compacting
- Practice & Apply Skills
- Interest Centers
- Independent Study
- Testing

Sense-Making
- Homework
- Products

Student-Teacher Conferences

- Assessment
- Tailoring & Planning
- Guidance
- Evaluation

Pre-Assessment Strategies

- teacher prepared pretest
- KWL charts and other graphic organizers
- writing prompts/ samples
- questioning
- guess box
- picture interpretation
- prediction
- teacher observation/ checklists
- student demonstrations and discussions
- initiating activities
- informational surveys/ questionnaires/ inventories
- student interviews
- student products and work samples
- self-evaluations
- portfolio analysis
- game activities
- show of hands to determine understanding: every pupil response
- drawing related to topic or content
- standardized test information
- reader response survey
- anticipation journals
How to Differentiate

**Content**
Content consists of ideas, concepts, descriptive information, and facts, rules, and principles that the student needs to learn. Content can be differentiated through depth, complexity, novelty, and acceleration. Content includes the means by which students will have access to information. Materials can vary according to reading level or by employing text materials on tape.

**Process**
Process is the presentation of content, including the learning activities for students, the questions that are asked, as well as the teaching methods and thinking skills that teachers and students employ to relate, acquire, and assess understanding of content.

**Learning Environment**
The learning environment is the way the classroom looks and/or feels, including the types of interaction that occur, the roles and relationships between and among teachers and students, the expectations for growth and success, and the sense of mutual respect, fairness, and safety present in the classroom.

**Products**
Products are the culminating projects and performances that result from instruction. They ask the student to rehearse, apply, or extend what s/he has learned in a unit. A product or performance provides the vehicle that allows students to consolidate learning and communicate ideas.
The Equalizer

Concrete to abstract
(representations, ideas, applications, materials)

Simple to complex
(resources, research, issues, problems, skills, goals)

Basic to transformational
(information, ideas, materials, applications)

Single facets to multi-facets
(directions, problems, applications, solutions, approaches, disciplinary connections)

Smaller leaps to greater leaps
(application, insight, transfer)

More structured to more open
(solutions, decisions, approaches)

Less independence to greater independence
(planning, designing, monitoring)

Slow to faster
(pace of study, pace of thought)

Tomlinson, 1995
**Guided Practice**

**ELA10RL3** The student deepens understanding of literary works by relating them to contemporary context or historical background, as well as to works from other time periods. The student

a. Relates a literary work to non-literary documents and/or other texts from its literary period.

b. Relates a literary work to non-literary documents and/or other texts relevant to its historical setting.

**Sample Task for ELA10RL3**
The student researches an archetypal story (e.g., Cinderella, or Little Red Riding Hood) as it changes over time and across cultures, relates the various versions to their contemporary contexts and/or historical backgrounds, classifies the various versions as to their purpose (e.g., to entertain, to instruct, to promote/support cultural or societal values) then presents the results of this research in a verbal or written form.

**The Differentiated Tasks:**

1. Using a teacher-prepared graphic organizer, the student works with two peers to analyze the characters and events in three, pre-selected versions of an archetypal story (e.g., Cinderella, or Little Red Riding Hood). Still working in the group, the student matches these stories to three historical and/or cultural scenarios provided in his/her learning packet. Each student in the group then takes one of the stories and explains to the others why it is representative of the period or culture in the chosen scenario. Next, the students determine the purpose of each of the three stories (e.g., to entertain, to instruct, to promote/support cultural or societal values). Finally, each student individually rewrites one of the stories so that it reflects one or more characteristics of the time and place in which s/he lives.

2. The student meets with two peers, and each selects three different versions of the same story from a number of versions provided by the teacher. Each student then uses a number of resources provided by the teacher to research the time and place of production for each of his/her versions of the story. The students then meet together to select from several sample graphic organizers the one that can best represent the connections between the stories they read and the results of their research. Next the students categorize all their stories according to purpose (e.g., to entertain, to instruct, to promote/support cultural or societal values) and specify the reason(s) why each story best fits in the specified category. Finally, each student composes a dialogue between a character or characters from two different versions of the story; this dialogue should
demonstrate the student’s understanding of the cultural and/or historical differences between the two versions of the story.

3. The student independently researches an archetypal story (e.g., Cinderella, or Little Red Riding Hood) in three different versions that s/he selects. These versions may be from different time periods or from different parts of the world. The student then prepares an original chart or diagram to compare and contrast the major elements of each story. Next, the student researches the time and place in which each of the stories was written. The student then meets with two peers to discuss connections between the time and place of their stories’ production and the differing characteristics of the stories, including the reasons why each was written (e.g., to entertain, to instruct, to promote/support cultural or societal values). Finally, each student focuses on one or more characters from the story s/he researched and creates a cartoon or a comic strip that parodies some event from the time in which s/he lives.
## A Traditional Classroom Compared to a Differentiated One

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Classroom</th>
<th>Differentiated Classroom</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Student differences are masked or acted upon when problematic.</td>
<td>1. Student differences are studied as a basis for planning.</td>
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<td>2. Assessment is most common at the end of learning to see “who got it.”</td>
<td>2. Assessment is ongoing and diagnostic to understand how to make instruction more responsive to learner needs.</td>
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<td>3. A relatively narrow sense of intelligence prevails.</td>
<td>3. Focus on multiple forms of intelligence is evident.</td>
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<td>4. A single definition of excellence exists.</td>
<td>4. Excellence is defined by individual growth from a starting point.</td>
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<td>5. Student interest is infrequently tapped.</td>
<td>5. Students are frequently guided in making interest-based learning choices.</td>
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<td>6. Relatively few learning profile options are taken into account.</td>
<td>6. Many learning profile options are provided.</td>
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<td>7. Whole class instruction dominates.</td>
<td>7. Many instructional arrangements are used.</td>
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<td>8. Coverage of texts and/or curriculum guides drives instruction.</td>
<td>8. Student readiness, interest, and learning profile shape instruction.</td>
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<td>9. Mastery of facts and skills out-of-context is the focus of learning.</td>
<td>9. Use of essential skills to make sense of key concepts and principles is the focus of learning.</td>
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<td>10. Single-option assignments are the norm.</td>
<td>10. Multi-option assignments are frequently used.</td>
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<td>11. Time is relatively inflexible.</td>
<td>11. Time is used flexibly in accordance with student needs.</td>
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<td>12. A single text prevails.</td>
<td>12. Multiple materials are provided.</td>
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<td>13. Single interpretations of ideas and events may be sought.</td>
<td>13. Multiple perspectives on ideas and events are routinely sought.</td>
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</table>
14. The teacher directs student behavior.

14. The teacher facilitates students’ skills at becoming more self-reliant learners.

15. The teacher solves problems.

15. Students help one another and the teacher solve problems.

16. A single form of assessment is often used.

16. Students are assessed in multiple ways.

Carol Tomlinson, 1998
Low-Prep and High-Prep Differentiation

Low-Prep Differentiation
Choice of books
Homework options
Use of reading buddies
Varied journal prompts
Orbitals
Varied pacing with anchor options
Student-teacher goal setting
Work alone/work together
Whole-to-part and part-to-whole explanations
Flexible seating
Varied computer programs
Design-A-Day
Varied supplementary materials
Options for varied modes of expression
Varying scaffolding on same organizer
Let’s Make a Deal projects
Computer mentors
Think-Pair-Share by readiness, interest, learning profile
Use of collaboration, independence, and cooperation
Open-ended activities
Miniworkshops to reteach or extend skills
Jigsaw
Negotiated Criteria
Explorations by interest
Games to practice mastery of information and skill
Multiple levels of questions

High Prep-Differentiation
Tiered activities and labs
Tiered products
Independent studies
Multiple texts
Alternative assessments
Learning contracts
4-MAT
Multiple intelligence options
Compacting
Spelling by readiness
Entry Points
Varying organizers
Lectures coupled with graphic organizers
Interest groups
Tiered centers
Interest centers
Personal agendas
Literature Circles
Stations
Complex instruction
Group investigation
Tape-recorded materials
Teams, Games, and Tournaments
Think-Tac-Toe
Simulations
Problem-Based Learning
Graduated rubrics
Flexible reading formats
Student-centered writing Formats

Tomlinson, How to Differentiate in Mixed-Ability Classrooms, 34.
**Action Plan**

**Directions:** Complete the following chart to create your individual plan for building a differentiated classroom. Consider the following:

- What am I already doing to differentiate?
- How can I assess and use student readiness, interests, and learning profiles to maximize learning growth for every student?
- How can I differentiate content, process, products, or the learning environment?
- How can I employ Tomlinson’s Equalizer to create tiered assignments, activities, tasks, and products?
- What low-prep differentiations do I want to start with?
- What higher-prep differentiations do I want to work toward?

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<th>Differentiation:</th>
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Glossary

**Ability Grouping**—Grouping students according to similar readiness levels or learning profiles.

**Adjusting Questions**—A teacher, in class discussions, tests, and/or homework, adjusts the sorts of questions posed to learners based on their readiness, interests, and learning profile. This strategy is an excellent “get your feet wet” differentiation strategy because it builds on strengths and abilities readily used by most teachers.

**Alternate Assignment**—Assignments given to particular students or groups of students in lieu of the assignment given to the other members of the class. These assignments are designed to capitalize on student readiness levels, interests, or learning profiles.

**Anchor Activity**—A task or activity that a student automatically moves to upon completion of other assigned work.

**Carousel Brainstorming**—A strategy where students brainstorm responses to prompts or questions written on butcher paper and placed at five different stations around the room. Students rotate from station to station and discuss their responses with others in their group. Teachers may use carousel brainstorming as a pre-assessment tool or as a review opportunity.

**Cluster Grouping**—Flexible grouping and regrouping of students within a classroom to accommodate different instructional needs at different times and/or for different subject or content, different readiness levels, interests, or learning profiles.

**Compacting**—Modifying or streamlining content, process, or product in order to eliminate repetition of previously mastered material.

**Contracting**—Agreement reached between one or more students and their teacher; the content specifies learning objectives, activities, resources, deadlines/timelines, assessment procedures, working conditions, and places for signatures. The teacher agrees to allow a student the freedom to pursue an area of special interest; and the student, in turn, agrees to follow certain independent learning conditions.

**Cooperative Learning**—Students work with other students in groups to achieve a specific goal or purpose. Each group member has a particular, predetermined role in helping the group reach its goal.

**Cubing**—A versatile strategy, similar to a contract, which allows a teacher to plan different activities for different students or groups of students based on student readiness, learning style, and/or interests. The teacher creates a cube—usually different colored cubes—for different
groups of students. On each of the cube’s six faces, the teacher describes a different task related to the subject and/or concept being learned.

**Exit Cards**—Teacher distributes index cards to students a few minutes before the end of class. Students respond quickly to a specific prompt such as “What’s the most important thing you learned today?” Exit cards provide a quick and easy method of assessing understanding.

**Flexible Grouping**—Purposeful reordering of students into a variety of different groups in a short amount of time in order to ensure that all students work with a number of different students on a regular basis. Criteria for grouping—readiness, interest, learning profile, activity or task, content—will vary regularly as well.

**4-MAT**—Teachers plan instruction for each of four learning preferences: mastery, understanding, personal involvement, and synthesis. This is based on the hypothesis that students have one of these four learning preferences. All students participate in all learning formats in order to maximize learning strengths and strengthen the weaker preferences.

**Interest Centers/Groups**—Interest centers (often used with younger learners) and groups (often used with older learners) allow students choice in an area or areas of study.

**Independent Study Projects**—A student or small group of students pursues an area of interest related to a specific topic, curricular area, or individual area of interest.

**Literature Circles**—Small groups of students read and/or study different books with varying degrees of difficulty and/or varying topics of interest.

**Jigsawing**—A type of collaborative work in which students read and examine a portion of a reading assignment and report what they’ve learned to the entire group; an effective way to vary content according to complexity or depth of content to match reading readiness levels; a great way to involve students in subject matter presented in text.

**KWL Charts**—A pre-assessment tool consisting of three vertical columns. Students list in one column what they know about a topic or idea and in another column, what they want to know about the topic or idea. Then, after a lesson or series of lessons, they return to the chart to list in the third column what they learned about the topic or idea.

**Most Difficult First**—A very simple first step to full-scale compacting. It is usually used with skill-type activities such as math, grammar, map reading, vocabulary, or spelling. A teacher allows students to demonstrate mastery of the five most difficult problems of an assignment and then to participate in alternate activities without having to do an entire assignment.

**Orbital Studies**—Independent investigations, generally of three to six weeks, which “orbit” or revolve around some facet of the curriculum. Students select their own topics for orbitals and work with guidance and coaching from the teacher to develop more expertise on both the topic and on the process of becoming an independent investigator.
**Personal Agendas**—A personalized list of tasks that a particular student must complete in a specified time; student agendas throughout a class will have similar and dissimilar elements on them.

**Plus-Minus-Interesting Charts**—A device developed by DeBono in which students summarize their findings about a particular topic or idea by listing what’s good about it, what’s possibly negative about it, and what’s interesting about it.

**Product/Project Options**—Students choose the way that they will provide evidence of learning from a variety of options. These options allow students to utilize their individual strengths and interests.

**Pyramid Activities**—Any activity that begins with students working individually, progresses through pairs, groups of four, etc., and ends with the whole-class group. A good way to review material or to practice test-taking strategies. Students may begin by individually recording what they know and then add to or change their responses as they collaborate with other students.

**Questioning Strategies**—Different types of questions are employed before, during, and after an activity, a lesson, or a unit of instruction to engage and challenge students to demonstrate their understanding from the knowledge level to the evaluation level. These questions allow students to clarify their thinking, increase their knowledge, and deepen their understanding.

**RAFT Activities**—Students select a Role, Audience, Format, and Topic for a particular task. The tasks vary but may include writing, oral presentations, skits, review activities, etc.

**Reader’s Workshop**—This student-centered, instructional model for “real reading” uses authentic literature and allows students to self-select books. Students read at their own pace, reflect on what they read, and talk about their reading with others.

**Reading Buddies**—One name for peer reading partners, pairs of students who assist each other in reading for comprehension. They may take turns: one reading aloud and the other summarizing OR one reading aloud while the other formulates questions about that reading, etc.

**Scaffolding**—This refers to any support system that enables students to succeed with tasks they find genuinely challenging.

**Subject/Content Acceleration**—A student or group of students moves to a higher level of content or difficulty at an earlier time or age than the other students.

**Thinking Maps**—Visual representations of ideas that allow students to “unpack” their thinking and organize ideas in a visual format rather than solely in sentences or paragraphs.
**Think-Tac-Toe Extension Menu or Choice Board**—A collection of activities from which a student can choose. It is generally presented in the form of a 3x3 or a 4x4 grid, similar to a tic-tac-toe board, with the center square often allowing for student choice. This format can be applied to extension activities, contracts, study guides, or independent studies. They allow a teacher to differentiate content, process and product according to different levels of student performance/readiness, interests, and learning styles.

**Tiered Assignments**—Teachers adjust the degree of difficulty for a particular assignment or task in order to meet the needs of students with varying levels of readiness, varying interests, and/or varying learner profiles.

**Vocabulary Web**—A graphic organizer based on a single vocabulary word. The word goes in the center circle; students then define the word, find synonyms and antonyms, write a sentence using the word, create analogies, and analyze the word according to word families, origin, stems, and parts of speech.

**WebQuest**—A programmed, self-contained activity on the Internet that allows students to perform authentic, independent tasks while using the computer. WebQuests give individuals or small groups of learners the opportunity to use research, problem solving, and basic skills as they move through a process of finding out, drawing conclusions about, and developing a product related to a topic or question. Each WebQuest consists of the same five parts: introduction, task, process, resources, and evaluation rubric.

**Writer’s Workshop**—This student-centered, instructional model for “real writing” uses authentic assignments that allow students to participate in differentiated activities while participating in all stages of the writing process. Students spend time on self-selected writing activities.
Recommended Readings/Viewings/Websites: Differentiation

**Note:** A more general list of resources for the standards-based education process is contained in the materials for Day 1 of training.


This excellent resource includes three VHS tapes and a Facilitator’s Guide. The videos provide clips of real differentiated classrooms and include commentary by Carol Ann Tomlinson. One set of these materials is being sent to each local system.


Berger provides an overview of four areas of differentiation: content, process, product, and learning environment. In addition, she lists seven guiding principles for curriculum differentiation developed by the curriculum committee of the Leadership Training Institute.


This report examines information on the theory and research behind differentiated instruction and the intersection with Universal Design for Learning (UDL), a curriculum-designed approach to increase flexibility in teaching and decrease the barriers that frequently limit student access to materials and learning in classrooms. The report includes a number of links to sites with more information about differentiated instruction.


Using varying types/levels of graphic organizers provides one means of differentiating content or process. This website includes a number of different types of graphic organizers along with explanations and suggestions for their use. Links to other resources may also be valuable.

http://www.literacymatters.org/content/isearch/intro.htm.

Individual and group investigations, valuable strategies for differentiation, may be organized as I-Screens. An I-Search can actively engage students in the research process as they pursue questions of importance that they care about. This site explains one version of the I-Search process.


This article examines the potential benefits of standards-based instruction for English Language Learners (ELLs), presents a standards-based process for designing standards-based instructional units, and reviews the design of two standards-based units for ELLs. The benefits of performance standards for ELLs are clearly represented in a chart included in the article.


This site, developed by Renzulli Learning Systems, provides comprehensive enrichment and differentiation activities for students. Beginning by determining an individual student’s profile—interests, abilities, preferred style of expression, and learning style—this site then matches individual students with a number of enrichment and differentiation opportunities. Although the resource is still in the development stage, this URL offers teachers a free trial opportunity to navigate the site.


This introduces a framework for utilizing technology to address the needs of all students and meet the challenges posed by high standards and increased student diversity.


Use this twelve item teaching style inventory to self-assess and self-score your teaching style in the areas of concept representation, learning, interaction, and cognitive processing.

This valuable resource explains both the theory behind and the means to achieve differentiation in mixed-ability classrooms. Each school received one copy of this resource along with other materials in the fall of 2004.

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Tomlinson provides a view into three separate classrooms to illustrate what a differentiated classroom does and does not look like.

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In this book, Tomlinson discusses the what, how, and why of differentiation, and provides examples from a number of differentiated classrooms.


This resource provides a brief primer on differentiation, as well as six differentiated units of instruction for grades K-5: two language arts units, two mathematics units, one science unit, and one social studies unit.

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This resource provides a brief primer on differentiation, as well as six differentiated units of instruction for grades 5-9: one language arts unit, one mathematics unit, one science unit, two social studies units, and one French unit.

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This resource is scheduled to be published in August of 2005.
Appendix

An Announcement: SAT Prep Online Course

The Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) is pleased to announce the availability of the College Board's Official SAT Prep Online Course™ for all students in grades 9-12. The Online SAT Prep Course is another component of our continuing efforts to assist local systems in improving the quality of education for students in Georgia. Available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, this program can be integrated into classroom instruction or may be used as a self-paced independent study for students.

The College Board will send specific information regarding the registration of students and educators to each high school principal. The online course is very user-friendly and does not require special training. However, in order to encourage all high schools to fully utilize the course, educators may attend a training session. There will be at least 10 training sessions available throughout the state, and at least one Web cast. The training will include an online demonstration of the course and instruction on maximizing usage of this valuable resource.

By August 1, 2005, the College Board, the facilitators of the Online SAT Program, will provide information for each high school in your district about the following items:

1. Personal access codes for each student in grades 9-12 in each high school
2. 18 interactive lessons that focus on critical reading, math, and writing
3. 600+ practice questions in critical reading, mathematics, writing
4. Explanations of answers to practice test items
5. Three full-length timed practice tests for the SAT
6. Personalized score reports on tests and quizzes for each student
7. Test Reports for the following categories:
   (A). practice test score by student
   (B). practice test question and answer by student and by class
   (C). practice test item type by student
   (D). practice college success skills by student
   (E). practice test summary by student and by class
   (F). practice test current performance by school and by district
   (G). practice test progress by class, by school, and by district
   (H). practice test roster by class
8. Online essay scoring service
9. Twelve-month subscription service for all students and educators.

You will receive information soon from representatives of the GDOE and/or College Board about professional learning classes for facilitators of the SAT Prep Online course in your high schools. We urge each of you to take advantage of this opportunity to improve student achievement on the SAT at no cost to local systems. Thank you for continuing to work toward our goal of leading the nation in improving student achievement. If you have any questions, please contact:

Charlotte Robinson
404-656-6854
crobinso@doe.k12.ga.us
Pre-Assessing the English Language Learner

Framework for Understanding the Learning of PHLOTE & ELL Students: Who Am I Teaching?

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
(Stages of Language Acquisition)

Stages of Language Acquisition
- **NEP** – no verbal production, focus on listening comprehension, build receptive vocabulary; draw, copy, act...
- **Beginner** – one, two word responses, production of known structures; name, list, label ...
- **Intermediate** – simple sentences, developing higher levels of language/thinking; recall, define, restate, summarize, contrast ...
- **Advanced** – complex errors in speech and print; focus on reading and writing correctly, analyze, support, evaluate, create ...
- **Transition** – fluency approaches native speaker; focus on writing mechanics; all indicators

Prior Academic History
- Academic calendar
- School day setup
- Native literacy skills level
- Kind of skills & knowledge
- Student’s developmental stage at departure/arrival
- Instructional delivery method
- Parents educational level
- Native language structure & phonological system

Georgia QCC, GPS and/or System’s Adopted Academic Curriculum

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES
UbD, Learning Focused Schools
Brasosport’s model and other research based strategies

Academic Modification Plan for ELLs

Alternative Assessments

ACADEMIC SKILLS
(Prior & current Academic Records)

EXPERIENTIAL BACKGROUND
(Culture and Prior Living Experiences)

Culture
- Religion
- Child rearing practices
- Male/female roles
- Beliefs about success & failure
- Morality
- Proxemics
- Time
- Humor
- Acculturation stage
- Affective filter
- Motivation incentives
- Social class - Poverty!!

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Instructional Accommodations for ELLs

Accommodations for ELLs are appropriate and effective only to the level that these match the English language learners proficiency in English, prior academic knowledge, and cultural learning patterns.

- give tests orally rather than in written form
- give more time to complete assignments
- allow same-language buddy to assist
- require fewer responses to demonstrate mastery
- permit incomplete sentences in responses
- permit ungrammatically correct sentences in responses
- provide lower level text on content material
- provide video on content material
- provide text on tape
- highlight key points
- reduce number of key points that student is responsible for knowing
- give advanced organizers/study guides
- permit open book tests
- use graphic organizers
- give written instructions as well as oral
- make a written record of instruction and display it on chart paper
- take time to develop students' prior knowledge of new topics
- increase % of student talk about topic (more discussions)
- break students into small groups for discussion
- plan for group work
- use demonstrations when possible
- present model of work done well at the beginning of the assignment
- use hands-on activities when possible
- give sufficient wait time after asking questions
- adapt homework requirements to reflect stage of language development
- use performance-based assessment when possible
- adapt project/assignment requirements so students can participate
- provide learning centers (language masters, books on tape, magazines for classifying and developing picture dictionaries, language-based games)
- provide computer time (phonics software, Kidspiration graphic organizer software, internet)
- seat student near teacher or positive role models
- relate content to real life
- present tasks from easy to hard
• reduce details needed to learn main concepts
• use simpler vocabulary or paraphrase
• provide additional examples
• pair verbal directions with visual clues
• look at students when talking
• use audio-visual aids frequently
• provide student with outline of lesson notes
• use peer-assisted note taking
• use role playing
• use games
• provide self-checking materials
• use different colors for worksheets
• use enlarged type on worksheets
• reduce the length or amount of work
• mark only correct answers
• do NOT write the name of a Korean student in red...it means death
• give short quizzes/avoid long tests
• allow the use of a dictionary during tests
• allow student to take tests until s/he passes/emphasize mastery
Georgia Department of Education, GPS Differentiation Menu

[Exceptional Students/Special Education]

For students who have difficulty with **writing/composing written material:**

- cooperative learning groups
- word processing application
- dictation to a scribe or onto a tape
- demonstrate/role play
- oral responses, presentation, and assessments
- multi-media presentation
- graphic organizer
- extended time on timed tasks
- word prediction software
- Co-Writer, Write Out Loud, Dragon Naturally Speaking, or other software
- voice output computer programs
- spell check/grammar check (not allowed on standardized tests)
- task item rubrics
- teacher prepared format
- break work into manageable parts
- individual or small group test taking
- story starters
- sentence starters
- outlines
- tape recorded essays and oral presentations
- voice activated software
- portable word processor
- prewriting conference/prewriting activities
- illustrations
- K-W-L chart
- provide sample work
- debates
- proofreading checklist
- word bank/word wall
- matrix usage
- note taking assistance
- provide student with key words on essay tests
- abbreviate assignments
- adapted writing tools or other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with **reading/accessing written material:**

- cooperative learning groups/group discussion
- extended time on timed tasks
- voice output computer programs
- talking dictionaries
- break work into manageable parts/presentation of small chunks of a passage
- individual or small group test taking
- testing with reader or scanable text readers
- books on tape/listening to recording/viewing film version of story
- text read to the student by adult or peer
- reading guides (highlighted text, summaries, etc.)
- Language Master
- tracking light or other tracking device
- colored overlays
- computer generated books
- answer “yes/no” questions for comprehension checks
- choral reading
- pre-reading summary
- electronic text (text reader)
- oral (or audio) presentation to student
- teacher introduction of vocabulary words
- paired reading
- picture cues
- illustrations to show comprehension
- CoWriter, Write Out Loud, other software
- K-W-L chart
- previewing topics to introduce vocabulary and key concepts
- listening guide to facilitate note taking
- links to prior knowledge/personal experience
- debates
- word bank/word wall
- other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty speaking:
- sign language interpreter/transliterator
- augmentative communication devices
- communication boards
- cooperative learning groups
- usage of other preferred means of communication
- demonstrate/play act tasks
- picture symbol program
- object symbols
- voice output computer programs
- object symbols
- break work into manageable parts
- provide time to respond
- ask “yes/no” questions
- allow students to indicate correct answer by pointing
• assign written rather than oral reports
• avoid situations that create pressure
• other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty *listening*:
• cooperative learning groups
• visual presentation using computer software, such as *PowerPoint* or *Inspiration*
• break work into manageable parts
• repeat, rephrase, simplify statements and instructions
• provide time to respond
• use of literal, concrete speech
• visual aids
• preferential seating
• note taking assistance (copy of notes/note-taking guides/note taker)
• have student repeat instructions
• reinforce oral instructions with written instructions
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with *mobility*:
• cooperative learning groups
• switch use
• touch screen
• modified keyboards
• extended time on timed tasks (or waive timed tasks)
• modified handwriting and/or grid paper
• weighted pencils and other motoric devices
• slant board or wedge
• magnets, tape, or other paper stabilizers
• stabilized materials
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• provide time to respond
• page turner
• flexible schedule/scheduled rest breaks
• provide assistance in manipulating classroom and personal materials
• note taking assistance
• adaptive or special furniture
• dictation to a scribe or onto a tape
• other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty attending to *task*:
• cooperative learning groups with specific tasks assigned
• rubrics
• graphic organizers
• extended time on timed tasks
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• task analysis
• task analysis graphically displayed
• proximity control
• visual, verbal, and tactile cues
• gain student’s attention before delivery of information
• flexible schedule/scheduled rest breaks
• preferential seating
• note taking assistance
• provide study guides for tests
• have student repeat instructions
• regular notebook/agenda checks
• give abbreviated assignments
• set time allotments for tasks
• organizer/daily planner/homework notebook/folders
• fewer items on each page
• allow students to mark answers in workbooks and test booklets
• select optimal time of day for assessments
• provide study carrel or other quiet work space with minimal distractions
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with **organization/study skills:**
• cooperative learning groups
• graphic organizers
• extended time on timed tasks
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• task analysis
• task analysis graphically displayed
• organizer/daily planner/homework notebook/folders
• provide time to respond
• preferential seating
• provide sample work
• task item rubrics
• provide study guides for tests
• have student repeat instructions
• regular notebook/agenda checks
• set time allotments for task
• fewer items on each page
• provide study carrel or other quiet work space with minimal distractions
• provide books to remain at home
• establish and post daily routines
• allow students to mark answers in workbooks and test booklets
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who are **Deaf/Hard of Hearing:**
• sign language interpreter/transliterator
• amplification equipment
• sound-treated classrooms/special acoustics
• visual presentation using computer software, such as *PowerPoint* or *Inspiration*
• highlighted vocabulary
• closed captioning for viewing movies and other video presentations
• cooperative learning groups
• demonstrate/play act tasks
• voice output computer programs
• individual or small group test taking
• give short, specific verbal instructions
• story webs
• story starters
• *Write Out Loud, CoWriter,* or other software
• peer scribe
• note taking assistance
• provision of class notes with critical information, test questions, and highlighted vocabulary
• preferential seating
• refrain from speaking with back turned to students
• provide a work space with minimal noise
• other communication aids (assistive technology), as appropriate

For students who are **Visually Impaired:**
• Braille text/Braille writer
• enlarged print
• print with optical devices
• tactile symbols
• calendar system
• auditory and electronic formats
• dark or raised line paper
• cooperative learning groups
• slant board
• individual or small group test taking
• low vision devices/magnifying equipment
• screen readers/text scanners
• audiotaped directions and text (Talking Books for the Blind)
• word processing program with voice output
• electronic Braille note takers
• positioning in class away from glare
• black print handouts
• primary typewriter
• preferential seating
• usage of grid paper
• special or adapted lighting
• other alternate formats, communication aids, or assistive technology, as appropriate
### Student-Created Products

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<td>wire sculpture</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Written
advertisement  
autobiography  
book report  
booklet  
brochure  
business letter  
characterization  
classified ad  
comic book  
comparison  
computer prog.  
couplet  
creative writing  
critique  
database  
description  
editorial  
essay  
fairy tale/tall tale  
field manual  
free verse  
friendly letter  
glossary  
guidebook  
handbook  
handout  
interview script  
job description  
joke book  
jot list  
journal article  
label  
law  
lesson plan  
list  
log  
lyrics  
magazine  
magazine article  
manual  
metaphor  
myth  
novel  
notes  
outlet  
pamphlet  
parody  
petition  
plan  
play  
poem  
prediction  
profile  
puppet show  
questionnaire  
questions  
radio script  
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newspaper article  
notes  
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notes  
novel  
new story ending  
newspaper  
newspaper article  
notes
## Product Possibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design a web page</th>
<th>Design political cartoons</th>
<th>Compile a newspaper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop a solution to a community problem</td>
<td>Formulate &amp; defend a theory</td>
<td>Develop an exhibit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create a public service announcement</td>
<td>Conduct a training session</td>
<td>Conduct an ethnography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Write a book</td>
<td>Design &amp; teach a class</td>
<td>Write a biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design a game</td>
<td>Do a demonstration</td>
<td>Present a photo-essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Generate &amp; circulate a petition</td>
<td>Present a news report</td>
<td>Hold a press conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Write a series of letters</td>
<td>Write a new law &amp; plan for its passage</td>
<td>Develop &amp; use a questionnaire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present a mime</td>
<td>Make learning centers</td>
<td>Conduct a debate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design &amp; create a needlework</td>
<td>Create authentic recipes</td>
<td>Make a video documentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead a symposium</td>
<td>Choreograph dances</td>
<td>Create a series of illustrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build a planetarium</td>
<td>Present a mock trial</td>
<td>Write poems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct a series of interviews</td>
<td>Make a plan</td>
<td>Develop tools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop a collection</td>
<td>Compile &amp; annotate a set of Internet resources</td>
<td>Design or create musical instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit writings to a journal, magazine, or newspaper</td>
<td>Design a new product</td>
<td>Compile a booklet or brochure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret through multimedia</td>
<td>Write a series of songs</td>
<td>Draw a set of blueprints</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design a structure</td>
<td>Create a subject dictionary</td>
<td>Present a radio program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; conduct an experiment</td>
<td>Make and carry out a plan</td>
<td>Do a puppet show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect &amp; analyze samples</td>
<td>Design a simulation</td>
<td>Create a series of wall hangings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan a journey or an odyssey</td>
<td>Develop a musical</td>
<td>Go on an archeological dig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make an etching or a woodcut</td>
<td>Be a mentor</td>
<td>Design &amp; make costumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write letters to the editor</td>
<td>Write or produce a play</td>
<td>Present an interior monologue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments for Days 7 and 8 of GPS Training

For Day 7 for all grade levels and all content areas:

Each participant should bring a student work sample to Day 7 of training. This sample should include 4 copies of the student work, 1 copy of the assignment that generated the work including the standard(s) being assessed via this student work, and 1 copy of each of the two permission forms (teacher permission form and student/parent permission form). These forms are in the Participant’s Guide for Day 6 of the training.

For Day 8 for all grade levels and all content areas:

As you work to implement the GPS standards this first year, please record your experiences in a notebook, journal, or other calendar format. Note any tasks, strategies, assessments, etc., that worked especially well; critical comments about particular standards (e.g., gaps that need filling, elements that are problematic, terms that need defining, etc.); suggestions for teachers/instructional leaders in Phase II who will be implementing the following year; thoughts or ideas about the second year of your implementation; etc. Please bring this record with you to Day 8 of training. The State Board of Education will be reviewing the GPS each year, and your comments will provide information for this review, as well as topics for discussion in training.
CONSENT AND ASSIGNMENT

This Consent and Assignment (the “Assignment”) is effective when signed by the undersigned Georgia educator ("Educator") and is between Educator and the Georgia Department of Education (the “GDOE”). For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree:

1. GDOE gratefully acknowledges the contribution Educator is hereby making to GDOE of the original work product (the “Work Product”) created, developed, worked on or revised by Educator in connection with GDOE's Georgia Performance Standards (GPS). So that GDOE may fully use the Work Product in any manner it sees fit, including making copies, modifications and derivative works, Educator hereby fully and unconditionally transfers, assigns and conveys to GDOE all of Educator's copyright, ownership interests and other intellectual property rights in the Work Product (collectively, the “Intellectual Property Rights”). Educator further agrees that GDOE may publicly recognize and acknowledge Educator's contribution to, and involvement in, the Project.

2. This Assignment is governed by Georgia law, can only be amended if both parties do so in writing, is assignable solely by GDOE and supersedes any contrary oral or written agreement or understanding. Educator grants to GDOE the power and authority to execute any documentation deemed necessary by GDOE to register or protect the Work Product or Intellectual Property Rights therein or complete the full transfer of the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights to GDOE which is the purpose of this Assignment.

"Educator"

Signature: ____________________________
Print: _________________________________

"GDOE"

Georgia Department of Education
By: _________________________________
Name: _______________________________

Title: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

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CONSENT AND ASSIGNMENT

This Consent and Assignment (the “Assignment”) is effective when signed by the undersigned legal guardian (“Guardian”) on behalf of the Guardian and minor Georgia student named below (“Student”), and is among Guardian, Student and the Georgia Department of Education (the “GDOE”). For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree:

1. GDOE gratefully acknowledges the contribution Student and Guardian are hereby making to GDOE of the original work product (the “Work Product”) created, developed, worked on or revised by Student. So that GDOE may fully use the Work Product in any manner it sees fit in connection with GDOE’s Georgia Performance Standards (GPS), including making copies, modifications and derivative works, Guardian on behalf of Guardian and Student (and their heirs and successors) hereby fully and unconditionally transfer, assign and convey to GDOE all of Student’s and Guardian’s copyright, ownership interests and other intellectual property rights in the Work Product (collectively, the “Intellectual Property Rights”). Guardian further agrees that GDOE may publicly recognize and acknowledge Student’s contribution to, and involvement in, the Project.

2. This Assignment is governed by Georgia law, can only be amended if both parties do so in writing, is assignable solely by GDOE and supersedes any contrary oral or written agreement or understanding. Student grants to GDOE the power and authority to execute any documentation deemed necessary by GDOE to register or protect the Work Product or Intellectual Property Rights therein or complete the full transfer of the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights to GDOE which is the purpose of this Assignment.

“Guardian”
Signature: ____________________________
Print Guardian’s Name: ____________________________
Relationship to Minor: ____________________________
Print Minor’s Name: ____________________________

“GDOE”
Georgia Department of Education
By: ____________________________
Title: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________