FORENSIC INFORMATION LITERACY: THE CSI APPROACH TO INQUIRY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

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Why does this forensic approach interest me?

What does a forensic approach mean in Information Literacy?

Thinking laterally
Visualizing the research topic/problem
Posing the right questions
Linking everything together initially
Making sense of the research
Examining what has been found
Keeping an open mind
Reading between the lines
Thinking logically & deducing
Verifying everything has been covered
WHY A FORENSIC APPROACH?

WHY DOES THIS APPROACH INTEREST ME?
WHY DOES THIS FORENSIC APPROACH INTEREST ME?

- 21\textsuperscript{st}-century learners
- Primarily grab-n-go culture
- Face-paced & quick
- Grabs the first item & goes

- Multiple Literacies & Multiple Intelligences
- Technology + education/profession
- Higher level thinking/critical thinking skills
- Group work & collaboration
- Speaking & presenting
WHY DOES THIS FORENSIC APPROACH INTEREST ME?

- Integrated Learning or Learning Across-the-curriculum
  - Individual or Independent Work
  - Browsing
  - Searching & gathering information
  - Evaluating, assessing, & selecting
  - Skimming,
  - Word Mining: antonyms & synonyms
  - Reading & writing
  - Organizing & compiling
  - Plagiarizing
  - Citing sources
WHAT DOES A FORENSIC APPROACH MEAN IN INFORMATION LITERACY?
WHAT DOES A FORENSIC APPROACH TO INFORMATION LITERACY MEAN?

- Think laterally
  - Outside-of the box
  - Blue-sky thinking
  - Pushing the envelope
POISING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS!
TIPS FROM SHERLOCK

- Ask the right questions
- Formulate clear questions
- Pose questions that need answers
VISUALIZE WITH GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS
A CSI STRATEGY

- Cloud
- Concept Map
- Mind Map
- Put ideas on paper!
MORE ON VISUALIZATION
GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

NAME:

TOPIC

What Happened

- Where It Happened
- When It Happened

Who It Happened To

- How It Happened
- Why It Happened

The Culture of

- Language
- Common Values
- Government

- Art and Literature
- Traditions
- Lifestyle
“TO LOOK AT A PROBLEM FROM MANY DIFFERENT ANGLES RATHER THAN BLUNDERING INTO IT HEAD-ON”

(SMITH, 2012)
DOES IT ALL CONNECT?
A CSI APPROACH

Illiteracy

Marital Status

No job skills

Poor Health

Economy

Corrupt governments

Natural Disasters
WHAT TYPES OF SOURCES?

- Whole Class Share
- Think Pair-Share
- Visualize in a graphic organizer
- Write it down – sketch it out with words!
THINK PAIR-SHARE
LIKE A CSI INVESTIGATION
WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP AFTER THINKING LATERALLY?
Lateral thinking is looking at a problem from many different angles.

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!
EXAMINE WHAT HAS BEEN INVESTIGATED
A CSI APPROACH

- Formulate a hypothesis
- Evaluate the hypothesis
- Reach a conclusion
- Verify the supporting details are strengthening the hypothesis
- Write a question or a statement
- Examine the information/data in their sources
- Does this information/data support the hypothesis?
Post-its with different pieces of information

Index Cards with different details/data

Move the around information!

What's missing?

What can be eliminated?

DOES everything make sense?
Be open-minded!
- Observe from a variety of angles
- Read different positions

Examine & re-examine
- Facts and details
- Evidence such as results from studies or experiments
- Data such as statistics

Be flexible! Go with the flow!
- Do they support the main thesis statement?
- Is there anything missing? If so, what?
- Is something extraneous? If so, eliminate it?
- Does it all connect?
  - Does one idea flow to the next?
  - If not, explore other possibilities.
Read in an atmosphere conducive to concentration

**Chunk read! – Skim!**

Relax & breathe!

**Focus on keywords**
- Highlighted terms
- Subject headings
- Thesauri
- Bold face headings & subheadings

**Do not get caught up in minutia of words!**
LOGIC AND DEDUCTIONS --
ANOTHER TIP FROM SHERLOCK!

- Fit theories to facts!
  - Do not become emotional!
  - Guard against biases!

- Verify the supporting details lead back to the thesis statement!
  - Confirm your findings!
  - Check your sources!
USE A CHECKLIST! – A CSI STRATEGY!

✓ Thesis statement
✓ Types of sources
✓ Evidence-based article
✓ Case study
✓ Data: Statistics
✓ Results of a study/experiment
✓ Historical or biographical information
✓ Introduction & conclusion — In sync?
### USEFUL MATERIALS & DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplies</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White board</td>
<td>Pair-share</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colored markers &amp; erasers</td>
<td>Turn-and-talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-its</td>
<td>Whole class share</td>
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<tr>
<td>Index cards</td>
<td>Gallery walk (poster paper or board work)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster paper &amp; markers (tape)</td>
<td>Individual work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checklists, Graphic Organizers, Prompts, etc.</td>
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KEEP CALM AND TRUST THE LITTLE GREY CELLS
WORKS CONSULTED


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Thank you!