



INSPIRATION



PART A: TARGETING MY IDEAL TEACHING AND LEARNING SITUATION

Part A Directions

The purpose of this survey is to help you examine your interests, experiences, and talents with an eye toward developing an ideal teaching and learning situation. The questionnaire is not a test and there are no right or wrong answers. Past, present, and future interests and experiences can serve as the basis for a rich, authentic educational experience for both you and your students. In short: If you could share anything with a group of interested students, what would it be?

Read through the questionnaire and give your answers careful consideration. Answer honestly and completely. When you've completed the survey, review your answers with the following question in mind: If I could share one of my interests in a learning situation, what would it be?

Professional Experiences

1. What is your favorite subject to teach?
2. List any special units you've developed for your classroom.
3. List any areas of knowledge such as astronomy, photography, geology, geography, archaeology, or any other "ologies" or "ographies" in which you have an interest. Circle your favorite area.
4. Name one thing you have always wanted to teach but never had the opportunity to teach.
5. List any special courses or programs you have taught or would like to teach.



6. Imagine that you have received a federal grant to develop some innovative curricular materials. The only stipulations are that (1) the materials should span 2 to 3 grade levels, (2) the materials must focus on activities that are not ordinarily included in regular textbooks or curricular guides, and (3) you must state the general and specific areas and the topical focus of the materials. Fill in the information below on your materials that would meet these stipulations.

| <u>Grade levels</u> | <u>General Curricular Area(s) Specified</u> |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary (1-3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary (4-6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Humanities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior High (7-9) | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School (10-12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Populations (specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Briefly describe the topical focus of the materials and innovative approaches you would develop.

7. Imagine that you can invite four individuals (living or dead, famous or not) to give a series of lectures (or workshops) in your classroom related to some aspect of your interests or course content. Whom would you invite?

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

From you choices listed above, pick your first choice and briefly explain why you picked this person?

8. Briefly describe the one thing that you feel has been your most creative contribution to teaching.



9. Describe something that you have done to help a single child (or small group of children) develop personally, creatively, and/or academically but that did not involve instructing or directly teaching something to the child.

Personal Experiences

10. List the clubs, organizations, and extracurricular activities in which you have been involved during each of the following stages of your life (include hobbies and services):

Elementary School: _____

Secondary School: _____

College: _____

Adult: _____

11. List any work you've published.

12. Where have you traveled?

13. Which place do you consider the most special and why?



14. What do you do in your spare time? If there were no limitations, what would you do in your spare time?

15. Have you ever done anything creative on your own (e.g., written poetry, composed music, organized political action, started an organization or business, etc.)? List some of the things you have done (beginning as far back as you can remember) that were not related to school assignments, extracurricular activities, or activities organized by clubs.

16. What cause would you take up if you had the time?



