



KWL

Socratic Questioning Assessment: For Students

Instructions for Teachers:

KWL is a thinking method designed to reveal the prior knowledge that students have about a given subject. It then encourages and exposes students to possible directions that the learning can take them and then reviews what was learned, in comparison to what they already knew. The tool can also be used by the teacher to assess the student's progress in the learning process.

The KWL method is a set of questions, or a brief sequence of steps used to scaffold and support student thinking, in order to help make that thinking “visible.” Thinking routines in general help to reveal students’ thinking to the teacher and also help students themselves to notice and name particular “thinking moves,” making those moves more available and useful to them in other contexts.

You can have students complete the first two sections (Know and Want to Know) before the lesson. You can also direct students to research tools that can provide introductory information as preparation for the discussion.



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"What We Know", "What We Want To Know", and "What We Learned"

(Created by Donna Ogle, 1986)



Name: Discussion Topic:

Before the Class Discussion:

1. In the first column, write down what you already know about the topic.
2. In the second column, write down what you would like to know more about the topic.

Know

What do you assume this is about? What do I think I know about the topic?

Want To Know



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After Class Discussion:

1. In the third column, write down new things that you have learned through the learning process. You can include content, skills and questions and insights you have gained.
2. Were there any moments in the discussion that were significant to your learning? If so, describe them in the fourth column.



Learned