

Metacognition Strategies - How to Learn

Questions to Help Teachers

1. What background information do my students need to be successful in my course?
 - What prior content should they have? Can I provide ways for students to review this content if they don't have it?
 - What skills do I assume my students have that are related to being successful in this course?
2. What cognitive levels of thinking do my students need to operate at to be successful in my course?
 - Is my course mostly knowledge and comprehension based information—facts and explanations?
 - Will students need to be able to apply what they learn or evaluate or synthesize?
3. What types of thinking skills/strategies do my students need to use to be successful in my course?
 - Do they need to solve problems?
 - Compare and contrast information?
 - Construct viable arguments and explanations?
4. What information gathering skills do my students need to be successful in my course?
 - Do they need to know how to use Internet search engines?
 - Library/textbook research resources?
 - Collaborative questioning?
5. What types of fix up strategies do students usually need to be successful in my course?
 - What areas of my course are usually really difficult for students?
 - Is there a set of questions students should know to ask when they do not understand the material?
 - Is there a set of steps a student should take to figure out how to solve a problem when they get stuck?
6. What types of study skills do my students need to have to be successful in my course?
 - Do I give objective tests?
 - Do I give constructed response tests?
 - Are there large amounts of information that must be organized?
7. What types of learning strategies do my students need to have to be successful in my course?
 - Do they need to be good note-takers?
 - Do they need to know how to summarize?
 - Do they need to know how to find important information in the textbook?
 - Do they need to know how to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them?