

Robert Gagné's Nine Events of Instruction

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PEDAGOGY

A way of structuring an instructional experience to maximize the amount of learning taking place.

PURPOSE

Most instructors say, "Students need to learn about x," or, "I need to cover x amount of information with my students." But the mind is not a vessel to be filled, the way you can fill a pitcher with water. The great educational theorist Robert M. Gagné (1916-2002) discovered that learning happens most effectively and efficiently when the mind is activated and attention is sustained in certain ways. He created a structure that he called "the nine events of learning" to describe how this process takes place for most learners.

PROCEDURE

1. Gain attention.
2. Tell learners the learning objective.
3. Stimulate recall of prior learning.
4. Present information.
5. Provide learning guidance.
6. Elicit performance (provide practice).
7. Provide feedback.
8. Assess performance.
9. Enhance retention and transfer to other contexts.

Students learn most from events 6 and 7: practice and feedback. Instructors who focus on providing practice and feedback to their students realize the largest gains in learning.



BEGINNER

Find out more at » nwacco.org/card/nineevents