

From Jim Burke for 8/9/10 - #engchat

The Ten Elements of Effective Instruction

1. *Provide the necessary conditions* for optimum learning and engagement.
2. *Establish and communicate clear, specific learning objectives* aligned with state, postsecondary, and career standards.
3. *Make explicit connections* between present and past lessons, students' lives, other texts or subjects, the real world, and the Big Ideas around which lessons are organized.
4. *Prepare students* by teaching relevant background knowledge, skills, and academic language and literacies.
5. *Integrate assessment* throughout the instructional process, using the data to establish initial understanding, measure progress, provide feedback, refine instruction, and prepare students for future performances.
6. *Teach students strategies* for learning, remembering, and doing.
7. *Demystify literacy practices and assignments* by modeling, providing examples, and giving clear directions as students graduate from dependence on you to responsibility for their own learning.
8. *Use different types of methods, modes, and media.*
9. *Ask students to generate* a range of ideas, interpretations, solutions, questions, and connections.
10. *Provide meaningful opportunities to practice, perfect, and perform* all lessons in class and at home.

Note: These ten elements are at the core of the next edition of *The English Teacher's Companion*, which is what I have been working on the last year; it will come out in about 2013.