

Distinguishing Among Learning Objectives, Instructional Strategies and Learning Activities

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An objective indicates what the goal of the instruction is. In other words, what is the student able to do, understand, appreciate, etc.?

Given a diagram, the student will be able to label four out of six systems of the human body.

The student understands the concept of justice and is able to give examples of justice and injustice from modern American society.

Using the workbook, the student will correctly print the letter "g" eight out of ten times.

An instructional strategy is what the teacher does to create the learning activity for the students.

The teacher will...

- describe the water cycle to the students
- show a diagram of the systems of the human body
- group students to discuss issues relating to justice
- provide materials for a science experiment
- ask a provocative question to elicit thoughts from students
- show a video that illustrates the Civil War
- model printing the letter "g" on the chalkboard
- show a computer slide presentation to teach chemistry

A learning activity is what the student does to accomplish the learning objective.

- Play a game
- Practice writing the letter "g"
- Read chapter five on justice and answer the questions
- Discuss a favorite poem
- Make a life-size diagram of the human body and its systems
- Tell a story that tells about an episode from American history
- Make a list of the parts of a computer