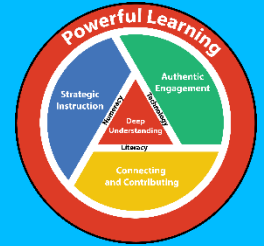




Instructional Tools: **Advanced Organizers**



WHAT IS IT?

Advanced Organizers provide students with information about the new upcoming content. They are used in advance of the learning and focus on what is most important so that students can see the purpose or meaning of what they are about to learn and activate prior knowledge. There are 4 types of advanced organizers:

1. **Expository Organizers:** clear-cut factual ways of describing new content.
2. **Narrative Organizers:** present information to students in a story format.
3. **Skimming:** use to get the big ideas of content prior to reading text in full.
4. **Graphic Organizers:** provides a visual aid to facilitate learning and instruction and engage learners with a combination of words and printed diagrams. Can support any of the other advance organizer strategies.

WHY USE THIS STRATEGY?

- Gives students a clear understanding of the expectations of learning and what is going to be assessed.
- Provides students with a condensed and summarized portion of the information that is to come so that they may make connections to prior knowledge or related understandings and engage with the content.
- Helps students see patterns in their learning or relationships between topics under a common main idea.
- Provides students with a conceptual framework to guide their learning.
- Develops higher order and critical thinking skills.
- Helps students organize and recall information.

HOW TO USE IT:

When introducing a new topic (unit, singular lesson, or overarching theme) the teacher can provide the students with an advance organizer to allow the students to gain an understanding of where they are beginning from. This could take numerous forms:

- quiz on what they already know
- a graphic such as a flow chart, concept map, or labelled image
- oral or written description of what is to come.

Narrative organizers - the teacher might read a short story from the time period students are about to explore, play a video clip to introduce the key vocabulary of the upcoming unit or even tell a personal story.

Skimming - the teacher asks students to skim the assigned text to get an overall picture of the content they are about to learn. Questions are provided to guide the reading. Learners could summarize their findings on a graphic organizer.

RESOURCES & LINKS

IMC:

- *Classroom Instruction that works: Research-based strategies for increasing student achievement.* Dean, C., Hubbell, E., Pitler, H., & Stone, B. TR2685

[The Great and Powerful Graphic Organizer](#)

Various templates:

- <https://www.collegestar.org/modules/advance-organizers>
- <https://www.teachervision.com/lesson-planning/graphic-organizer>
- <https://www.edrawsoft.com/share-graphic-organizer.php>
- <https://www.techlearning.com/tl-advisor-blog/9736>
- <http://www.educationoasis.com/printables/graphic-organizers/>
- <http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>
- http://rpd.net/admin/images/uploads/resource_11513.pdf

RAN Strategy (for Non-Fiction):

- http://rpd.net/admin/images/uploads/resource_11513.pdf
- http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/sssm/html/readingandanalyzingnonfiction_sm.html

Videos

- http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/sssm/html/readingandanalyzingnonfiction_sm.html
- [McREL - Classroom Instruction That Works \(2nd Ed.\) Advance Organizers](#)
- [McREL - Classroom Instruction That Works \(2nd Ed.\) Cues, Questions, and Advance Organizers](#)
- [How To: Graphic Organizer](#)
- [Graphic Organizers | Teaching Strategies # 7](#)
- [Advance Organizers](#)