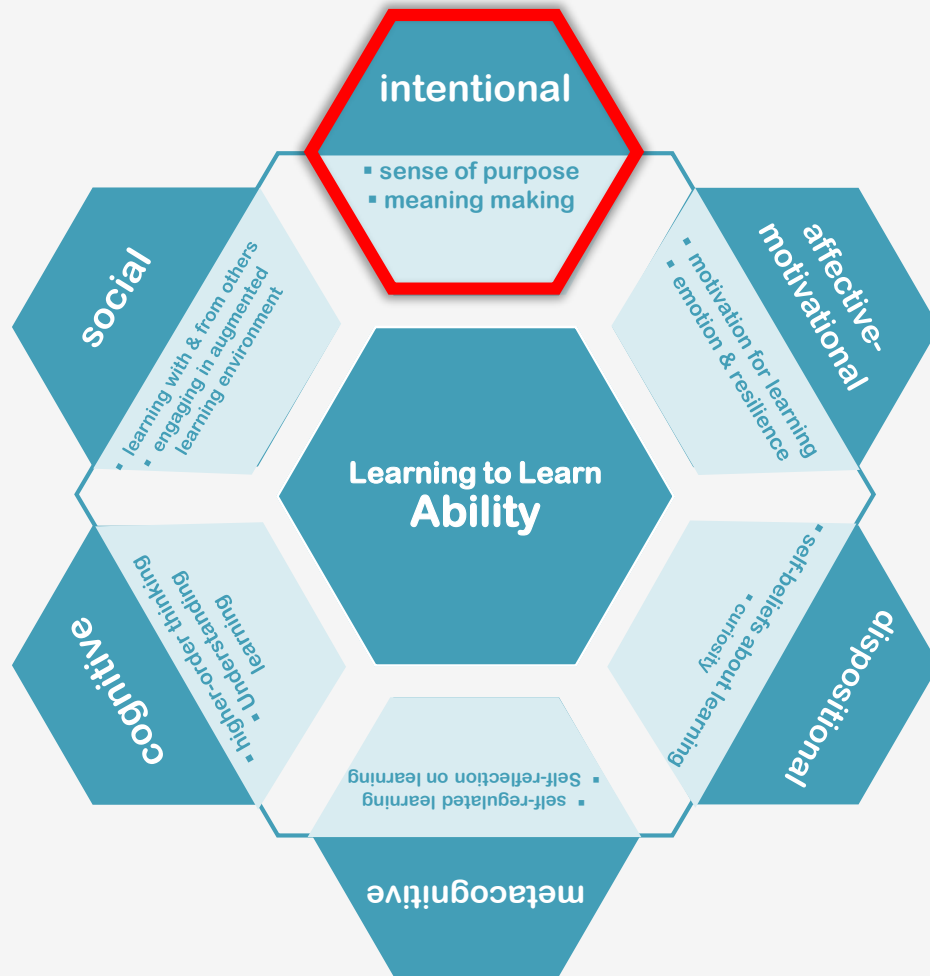


Outline



- 1 What do “sense of purpose” and “meaning making” mean in the learning context?
- 2 How do they function in students’ learning development?
- 3 What activities can help students develop these abilities?
- 4 **Activity:** LTA Design for your subject
- 5 Debriefing

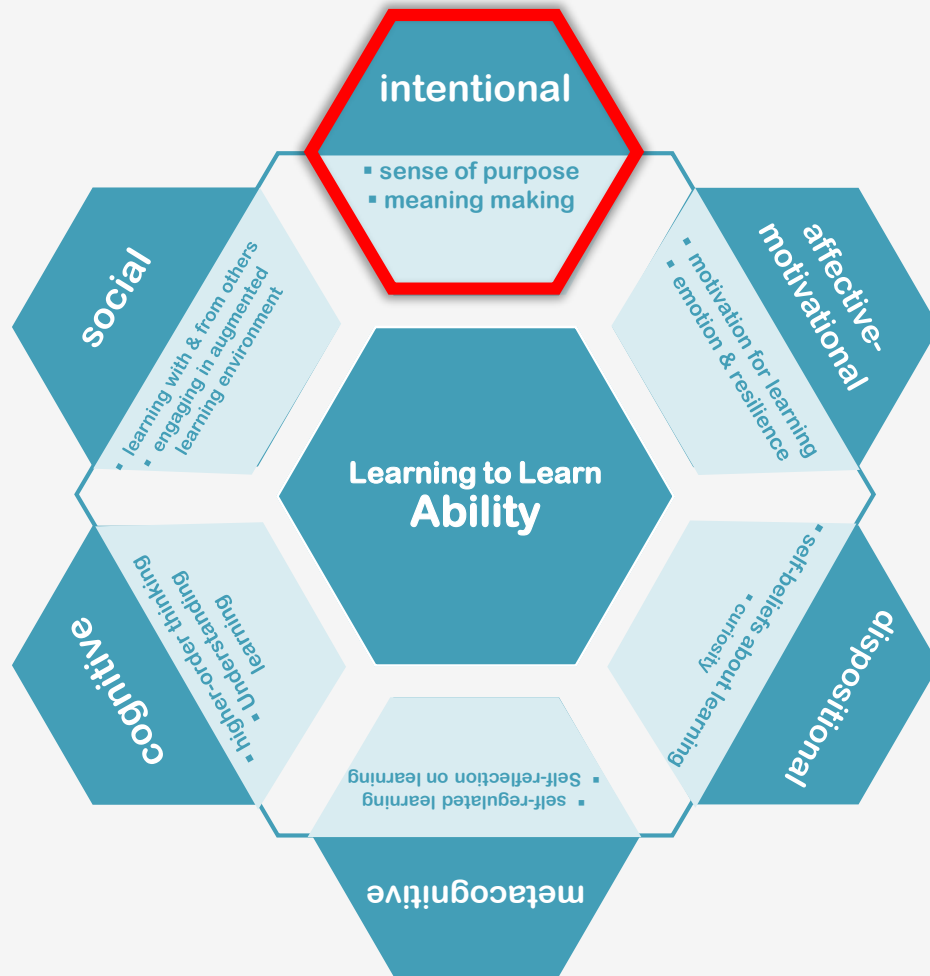
PolyU L2L Model



“

The **intentional dimension** represents the relationship between learning and the learner, which provides the internal forces that trigger learning and fuel sustained effort in learning to learn.

PolyU L2L Model



What do ‘sense of purpose’ & ‘meaning making’ mean?

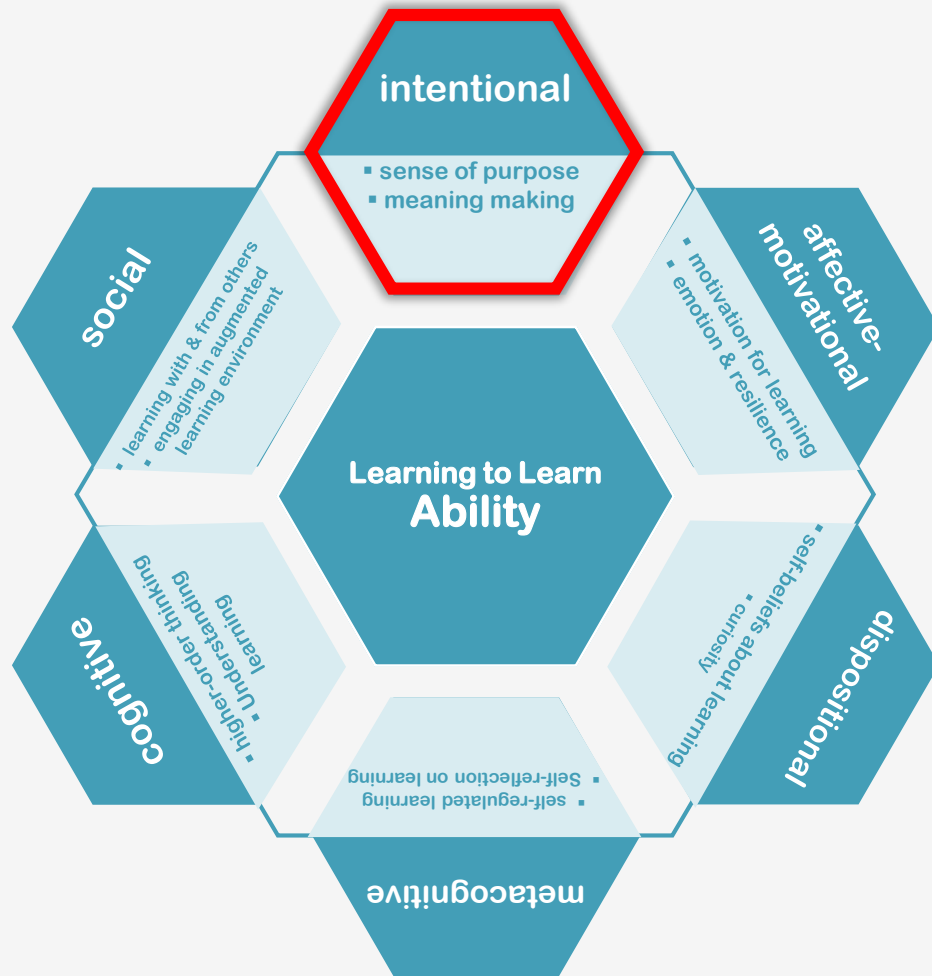
“

The learner’s tendency to learn with a sense of purpose.

Sense of purpose is the feeling of knowing why you are doing something, where you are going, what you are trying to achieve; the feeling of doing something important, something meaningful to you, something that you can identify with.

Meaning Making refers to the learner’s ability to give relevance and meaning to learning by seeing it in the broader context of life so that it becomes an authentic personal act.

PolyU L2L Model



In other words...

[Sense of Purpose]

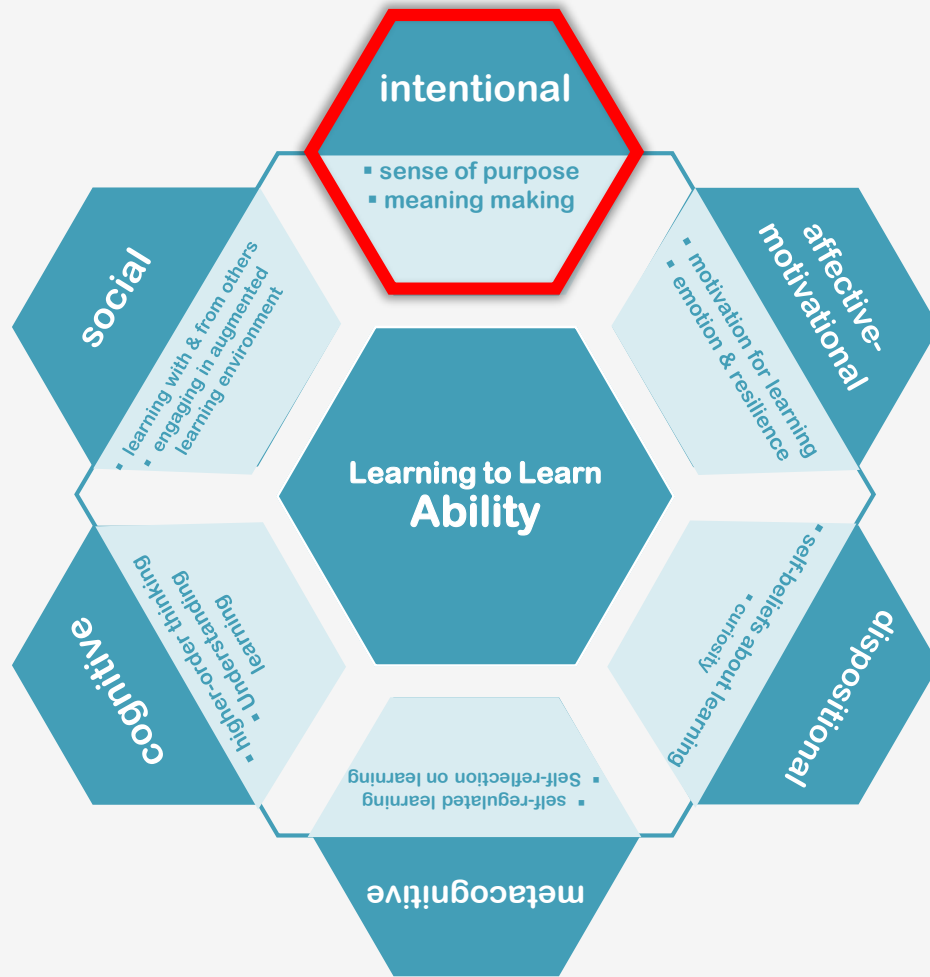
to students

- Knowing what is important to them and what they want or need to learn and seeing learning as their own duty

to teachers

- Helping students find their personal aspirations, passions and interests that they want to pursue through learning

PolyU L2L Model



In other words...

[Meaning Making]

to students

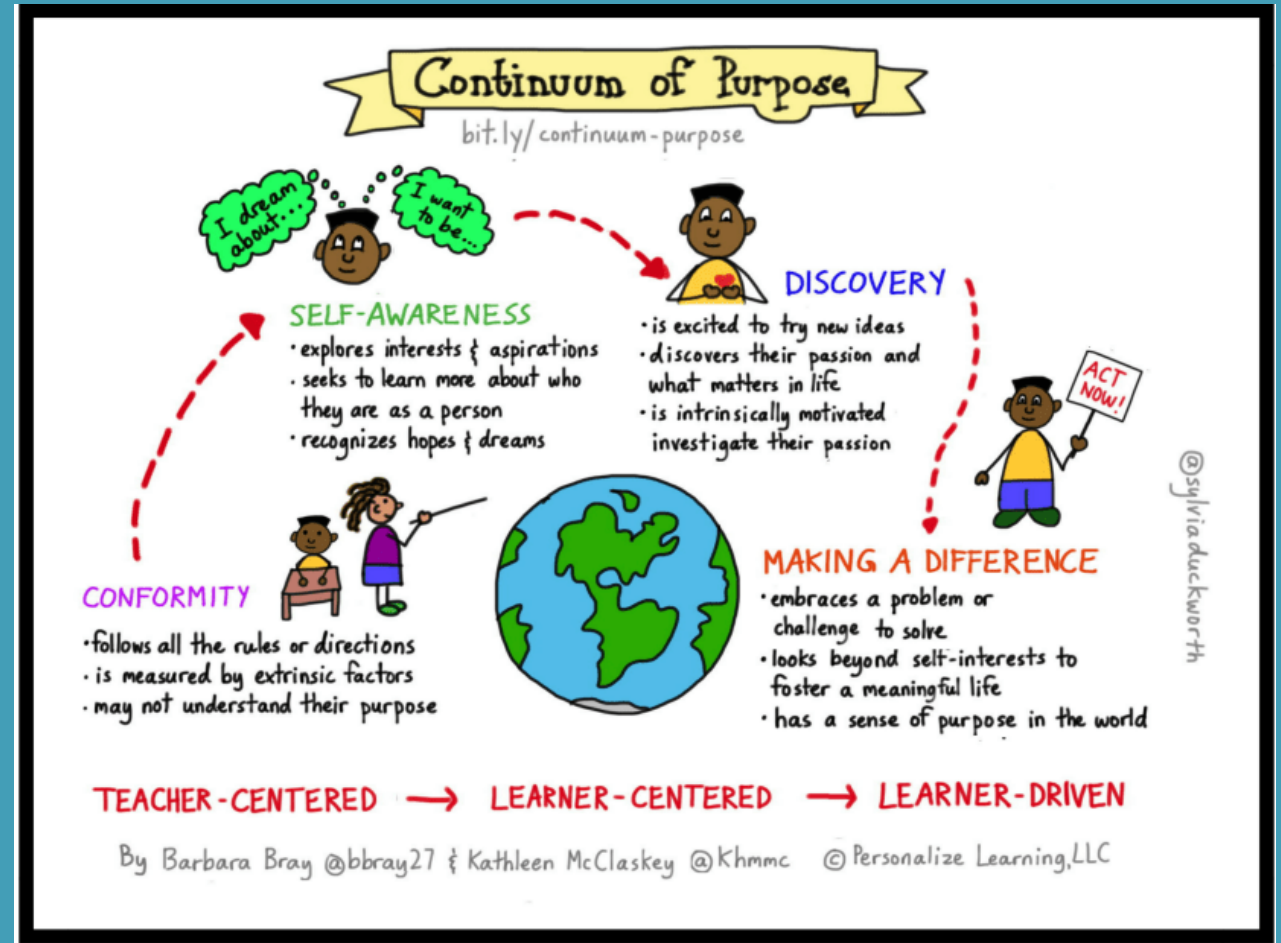
- Making the learning meaningful to themselves

to teachers

- Helping students see the relationship of the subject content and topics to themselves, their previous experience, aspirations and goals

They support students' learning development in these ways:

- 1 Students are more aware of their interests and abilities
- 2 Students are motivated to learn more
- 3 Students become more active to explore their passion and connect the learning content to themselves
- 4 Students become more excited to learn new knowledge & skills
- 5 Shifting from teacher-centred to learner-driven in learning



source: <http://kathleenmcclaskey.com/purpose/>

How to help students develop sense of purpose?

5 Ways to DEVELOP STUDENT SENSE OF PURPOSE

by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk

1. CULTIVATE CURIOSITY

Expose students to a variety of topics and walks of life, to develop their curiosity and help them explore where their passions lie.



2. ENCOURAGE SELF-REFLECTION

Get students to ask themselves what makes them happy, what they're most willing to put effort into, and what matters to them.

3. DRIVE GOAL SETTING

Encourage students to set SMART goals that are in line with their developing sense of purpose. These should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound goals.



4. MODEL AND MENTOR

Model your own sense of purpose, and mentor students through the process of finding theirs. Searching for sense of purpose can be unsettling and stressful, so teachers should provide support.

5. CONNECT TO THE REAL WORLD

Show students the connection between their education and 'real life' by getting them involved in real world problems and teaching them about inspirational people.



1. Cultivate Curiosity

- Expose students to a variety of topics and walks of life and help them explore where their passions lie

2. Encourage Self-Reflection

- Probe students to ask themselves what makes them happy and what matters to them

3. Drive Goal Setting

- Encourage students to set personal goals

4. Model & Mentor

- Model your own sense of purpose and mentor students through the process of finding theirs

5. Connect to the Real World

- Get students involved in real world problem and share stories of inspirational people

Some Ideas

- Encourage students to conduct study on topics of their interests
- Encourage students to put materials of their own study into their work and assignment
- Provide students with various kinds of opportunities, e.g. guest speaker talk, site visit, exhibition, "passion project", to let them explore the field more

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- Get students involved in real world problem and share stories of inspirational people

Some Ideas

At the beginning of the programme, give students this exercise:

Picture Your Aspirations

Your aspirations are the strongest motivation for your life and learning. This exercise will help you develop a sense of purpose for your learning and make meaning of your learning.

① Find a picture, a photo, an image, a painting or an illustration that you want to represent what you want to become in 5 years and paste it in the box below:

② Use no more than 200 words to describe your aspirations and list the things that you are going to do in the following 4 or 5 years and during your study at PolyU to achieve them:

Using probing questions

- What things matter most in my life?
- What things do I want most? (Focus on your wishes, not what others expect of you)
- What really matters to me?
- What do I like to have more in my life?
- What do I want in my career?
- What are my dreams?
- What would bring more happiness into my life?
- What do I want my relationships to be like?
- What qualities do I like to develop?
- What issues do I care about?
- What are my talents?
- What legacy do I want to leave behind?
- What does my ideal future look like?

Picture Your Aspirations

Your aspirations are the strongest motivation for your life and learning. This exercise will help you develop a sense of purpose for your learning and make meaning of your learning.

1 Find a picture, a photo, an image, a painting or an illustration that you want to represent what you want to become in 5 years and paste it in the box below:

2 Use no more than 200 words to describe your aspirations and list the things that you are going to do in the following 4 or 5 years and during your study at PolyU to achieve them:

How can this activity support students in developing sense of purpose?

- Using a metaphor helps students express their thinking and feeling more easily
- A visual item can help students visualize their aspirations more vividly

- Building a connection between their study and their 'future' helps them see the relationship, explore relevant opportunities around and make better choices to support the pursuit of their interests and aspirations

1. Cultivate Curiosity

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Some Ideas

At the beginning of the subject, ask students to go through the subject outline and write down what they want to learn, develop and achieve over this subject, and rank the subject learning outcomes upon their importance to them and relevance to their personal aspirations and goals

How can this activity support students in developing sense of purpose?

At the beginning of the subject, ask students to go through the subject learning outcomes, and rank them upon their importance and relevance to them and their long-term goals.

- Students preview what they can learn or achieve upon the completion of the subject
- Students explore how this subject can support the achievement of their long-term goals

1. Cultivate Curiosity

- Expose students to a variety of topics and walks of life and help them explore where their passions lie

2. Encourage Self-Reflection

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- Model your own sense of purpose and mentor students through the process of finding theirs

5. Connect to the Real World

- Get students involved in real world problem and share stories of inspirational people

Some Ideas

- Arrange a sharing session for you and successful alumni and practitioners in the field to share stories of finding and pursuing aspirations
- Provide opportunities for students to interact with the professionals in the real-world settings
- Use real-world problems in your materials and stimulate students to find their role and value

How to help students develop meaning-making?

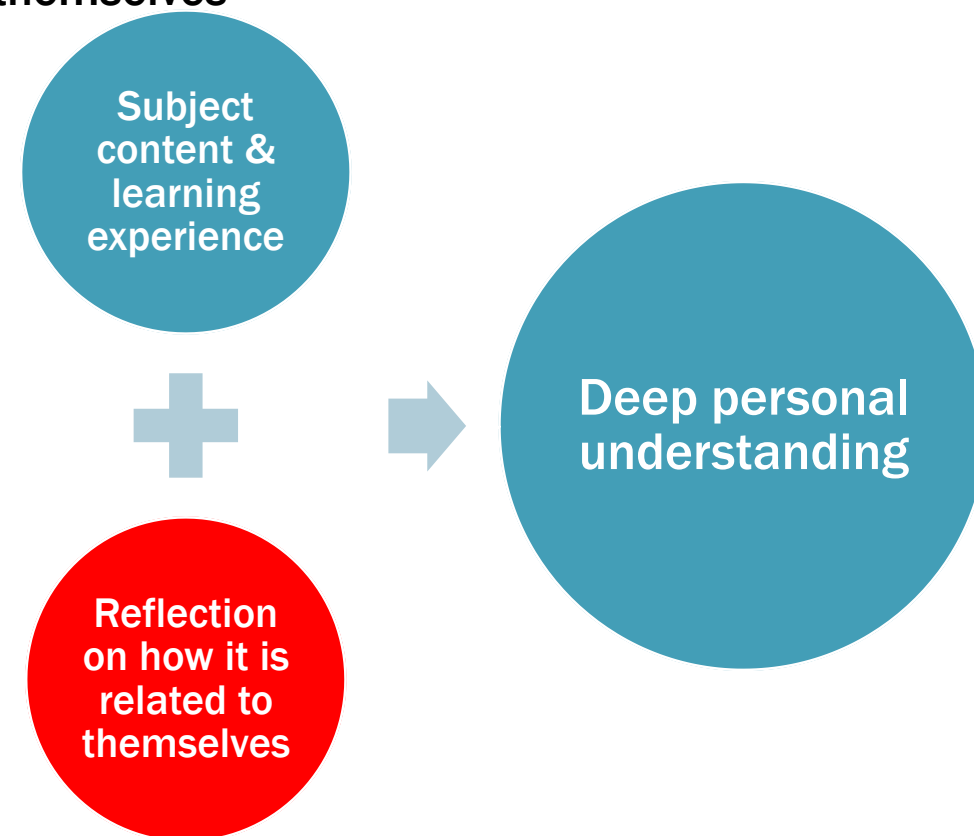
Some Ideas

At the beginning of the subject, ask students to go through the subject outline and rank the subject learning outcomes upon the importance to them and the relevance to their personal aspirations and goals

How to help students develop meaning-making?

Some Ideas

At the end of the subject, give students an exercise to reflect on the relation of what they have learned in the subject to themselves, e.g. their previous experience & personal aspirations, to make meaning of learning to themselves

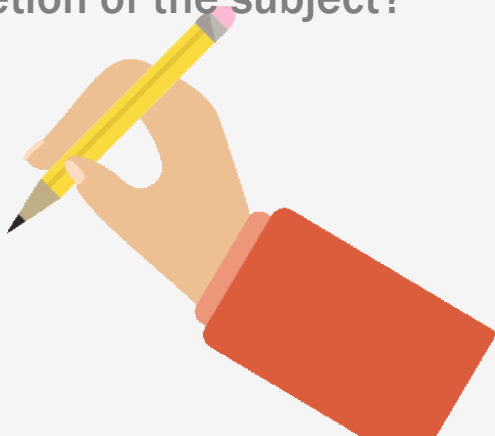


Activity: Subject Design

1

L2L Outcome

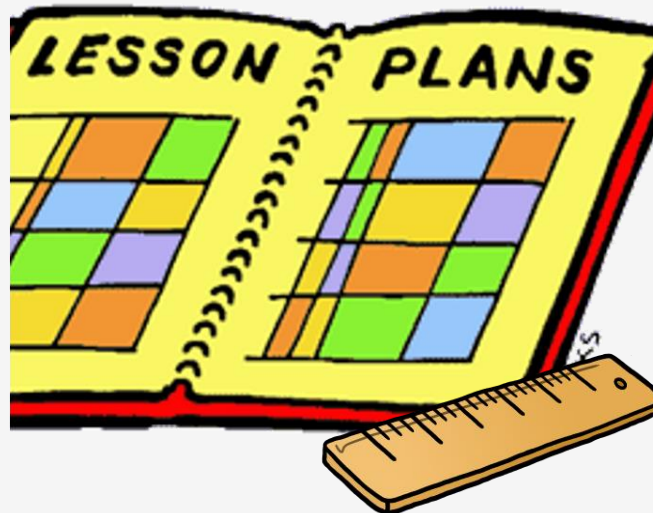
What will students achieve upon completion of the subject?



2

Learning, Teaching & Assessment Methods

What will support and assess students' attainment of these abilities?



3

Implementation



Examples of L2L outcome

1

- Engage themselves in learning with a sense of purpose and ownership

2

- Recognise learning as their own duty

3

- Make meaning of learning and the learning content to themselves
-