

Teaching Tip: Classroom Interaction

Classroom interaction refers to the various ways in which people in the classroom have interpersonal contact. Teaching guru, Jim Scrivener, writes of classroom interaction:

Five types of student grouping are common in the classroom: the whole class working together with the _____; the _____ mixing together as _____; small groups (_____ to eight people); _____; _____ work. In any one lesson a teacher may include work that involves a number of these different arrangements. Varying groupings is one way of enabling a variety of experiences for the learners.²

Well, Jim Scrivener didn't leave his text blank. Can you guess what the missing words are? The answers are on page 175.

Now that you know the right answers, decide which of the five you use the most and which one you use the least. Look at your next lesson and decide if there is any opportunity to use your least used form of classroom interaction.

² Jim Scrivener, *Learning Teaching* (Oxford: Macmillan Heinemann, 1994), 13.