teaching over an interactive television system

Human Interaction

The dynamics of human interaction change when using technology

Traditional classroom interaction consists of:

- Teacher interacting with students
- Students interacting with teacher
- Students interacting with each other

Remote classroom interaction consists of:

- Teacher using technology to interact with students
- Students using technology to interact with teacher
- Students using technology to interact with each other at other sites

Humanizing The Class Experience

- User orientation
- Activities for getting acquainted
- Learning participant names
- Planning student interactivity
- Developing a format for questions and comments
- Providing opportunities for questions and comments
- Providing opportunities for self-expression
- Remote site visits
- Sharing discussion of activities of common interest
- Group field trips
- Planned social activities for participants

Preparing The Users (Student)

- Organization of daily schedule
- Use of student microphones
- Identification when speaking
- Responsibility of remote site facilitators
- Attendance policy
- Language and discipline policy
- Procedure for technical difficulties
- Handling of student materials
- Testing procedures

Preparing The Learning Experience

Essential components (no ideal model)

Review

- Main points of previous lesson
- Answer student questions

Preview

- Set the stage by stating the objectives or major questions
- Present new vocabulary

Present

- Start with some attention grabbers
- Progress from simple to complex
- Logical sequence
- Select a maximum of five main points to be made during this presentation (15-20 minutes)

Summarize

- Tell students in simple language what you think is worth remembering from the presentation

Example

review- 3 minutes introduction to the network

preview - 2 minutes introduction by presenter

present - 40 minutes main presentation, allowing for plenty of interaction

summarize - 5+ minutes questions and answers

Common Teaching Techniques

- Demonstration
- Problem solving
- On-line and off-line discussion
- Exploration and brainstorming
- Drill and practice
- Interview
- Panel discussion
- Case study
- Written exercise
- Tutorial (peer tutoring)
- Instructional gaming
- Simulation
- Reading aloud (teacher or students)
- Planning cooperative learning
- Lecture

Other teaching techniques?

- Remember, there is not one "best" teaching technique or "best" teaching strategy!

Suggestions

- Select many of the same teaching/learning approaches you use in the self-contained classroom
- Consider variety - but keep it interactive
- Combine techniques
- Be creative
- Explore
- Experiment
- Limit the number of major concepts
- Determine the teaching/learning activities
- Time all activities
- Build in "loose" time
- Select or develop on screen visuals
- Develop handouts
- Video tape the entire learning experience and watch the entire tape!
- The key to successfully using this technology is interactivity.
- The class should be performance and involvement oriented.

personal qualities

Appearance

- Wear conservative clothing with clean lines
- Avoid reflective silk materials
- Solid colors are best
- Do not wear herringbone or small checks or spots
- Avoid extreme color contrasts, e.g. white and black
- Check collars are flat, flies zipped, blouses buttoned
- Avoid flashy, dangling earrings, pens in pockets, and other distractions

Poise

- Be calm
- Avoid annoying mannerisms
- Use moderate natural body movements

Personality

- Let your personality show
- Relax and be yourself
- Show warmth, friendliness and sincerity
- Model interest and positive attitudes toward the subject
- Be energetic

Delivery

- Stand straight, good posture
- Facing the students, full front, or straight into teacher camera
- Center of image area is stronger than either side
- Left side is stronger than the right
- Use natural body language
- Look directly at the student who is talking
- Look directly into the camera frequently
- Speech - pitch, volume, tempo and pacing, vitality and enthusiasm, articulation

Interactivity

- Use a variety of interactive techniques
- Switch cameras often, especially during discussions
- Plan visual content - word, picture, motion images
- Use well prepared visual materials
- Involve entire class in interaction
- Pay attention, show interest, and avoid distractions
- When a student is talking, don't interrupt
- Finish your sentences
- Use personal experiences that relate to the topic

Humor

- Let humor flow naturally
- Humor can reduce stress

These notes were based on materials prepared for "Interactive Television Workshop" produced by the Iowa Distance Learning Alliance.