

WebQuests

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What?

“ WebQuest is an **inquiry-oriented** lesson format in which most or all the information that learners work with comes from **the web**. These can be created using various programs, including a **simple word processing document** that includes links to websites.

Why?

“ A WebQuest is **distinguished** from other Internet-based research by three characteristics. First, it is **classroom-based**. Second, it emphasizes **higher-order thinking** (such as analysis, creativity, or criticism) rather than just acquiring information. And third, the teacher preselects the sources, emphasizing **information use rather than information gathering**. Finally, though solo WebQuests are not unknown, most WebQuests are **group work** with the task frequently being split into roles.

HOW C.

“A WebQuest has **6 essential parts**: introduction, task, process, resources, evaluation, and conclusion. The original paper on WebQuests had a component called guidance instead of evaluation.

Education

- “ Teachers use WebQuests to:
- “ Keep students **on-task** while online. (Student activities are organized by the WebQuest and they can **stay focused on** using it.)
- “ Extend students' thinking to the higher levels of **Bloom's Taxonomy**; analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.
- “ Support **critical thinking** and **problem solving** through authentic assessment, **cooperative learning**, **scaffolding**, and **technology integration**.
- “ Introduce a unit, conclude a unit, or provide a culmination activity.

Education (Cont'd)

- “ Foster **cooperative learning** through collaborative activities with a group project.
- “ Encourage **independent thinking** and to motivate students.
- “ Enhance students' technological **competencies**.
- “ Differentiate instruction by providing multiple final product choices and multiple resource websites. **Using multiple websites** as reading content allows students to use the resource that works best for their level of understanding.

Limitations

“ WebQuests are **only one tool in a teacher's toolbox**. They are not appropriate to every learning goal. In particular, they are weak in teaching factual recall, simple procedures, and definitions.

“ WebQuests also usually require **good reading skills**, so are **not appropriate to the youngest classrooms** or to students with language and reading difficulties without special design and effort (for example, bringing in adults to read the screens out loud.)

'Travel' WebQuest



Thank you
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