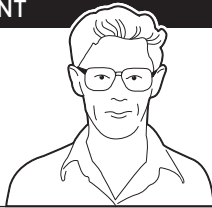




PINPOINT



One step towards improving teaching is to find out the extent to which you might be encouraging surface approaches in your teaching.

John Biggs

What is SOLO?

SOLO stands for **Structure of the Observed Learning Outcome**. It offers a way of analysing, evaluating and teaching higher-order thinking and writing. Unlike Bloom's taxonomy, it is based on empirical research and not just theory.

Interestingly, researchers found that it compared very favourably with teachers' own gut feelings when assessing students' work – almost as if they had their own internal SOLO structure.

Its structure mirrors how humans internally create and understand knowledge.

How do I use it?

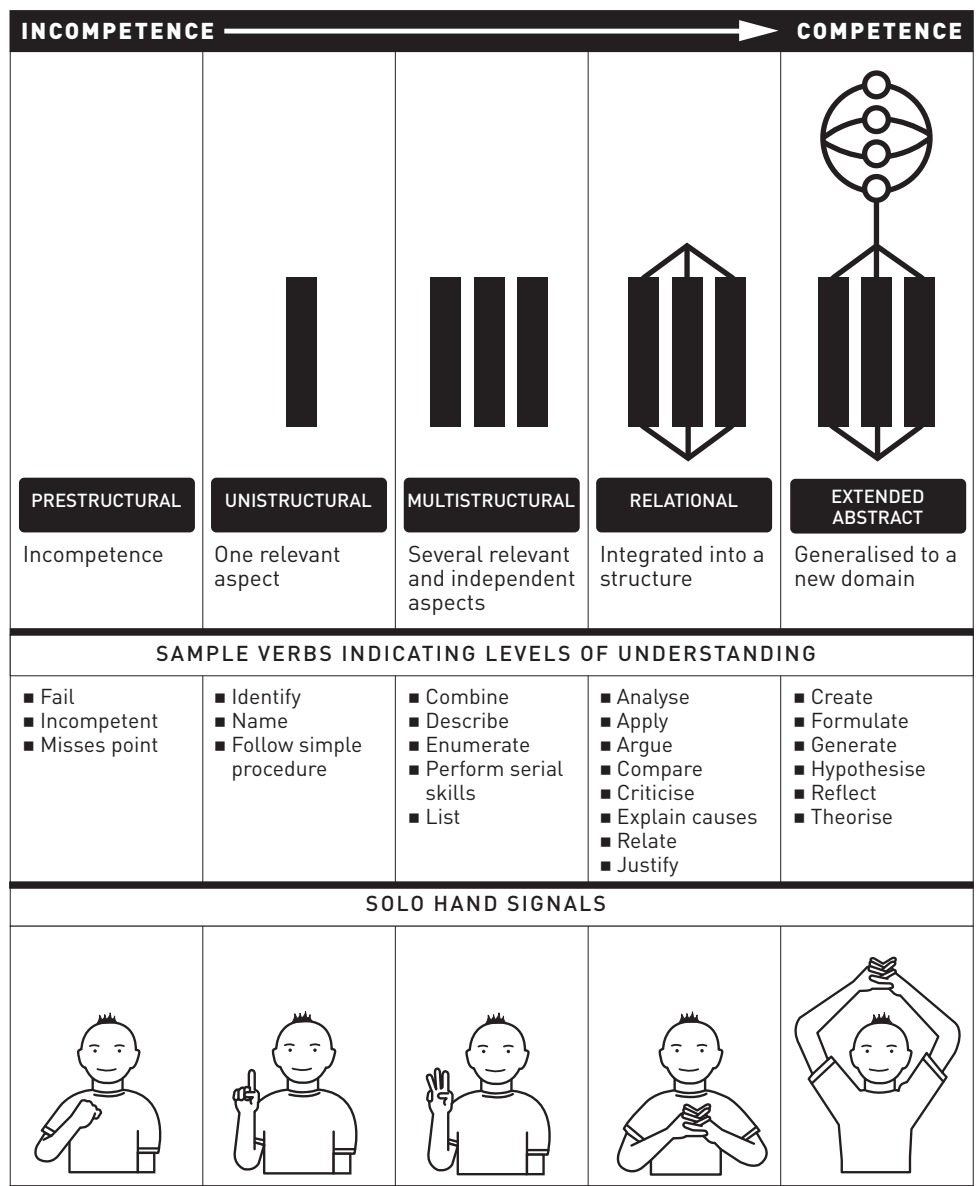
Use it to plan your courses and lessons. Identify differentiated learning intentions with the various levels of competencies.

Above all, teach it thoroughly to your students in order for them to peer and self-assess. Use them to agree personal learn-to-learn targets with students.

Show exemplars of the levels so

The route to mastery

Below are the levels from Incompetence to Competence, with their structural development and associated verbs. The hand signals are a useful device for younger students.



Graphic Organisers

The two teacher books (2011) in the References section, both make extensive use of Graphic Organisers as templates to ensure SOLO is practical and compelling to use.

REFERENCES

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