

Assess Your Strategies for Engaging Students

1. In your classroom, who carries the responsibility for ensuring students engage with your teaching? Do you feel that your approach to instruction is critical in holding students' attention or is it up to students to keep themselves focused?

2. What are your strategies for keeping students interested in your lessons? If you see students drifting, how do you approach getting them back on track?

3. How well do you understand the effects of poverty-driven stress on students' ability to remain focused on their learning? How do you recognize when a student is experiencing high stress and what do you do to help him or her cope with that and stay focused on learning?

4. How do you define the difference between learning for compliance and learning as a choice? What do you do to engage students in wanting to learn for its own sake as opposed to just pass the class?

5. Do you have an approach for getting students to buy into their learning as a group? What is that approach, and how well does making your students feel a part of a community drive their interest in learning?
