



Three Levels of Text Protocol

Adapted by the Southern Maine Partnership from Camilla Greene's Rule of 3 Protocol, November, 2003.

Purpose

This protocol is designed to deepen the understanding of a text and explore implications for participants' work. It asks participants to respond to 3 levels of the text: literal (level 1), interpretation (level 2), and implications (level 3)

Facilitation

Stick to the time limits. Each round takes up to 5 minutes per person in a group. Emphasize the need to watch air time during the brief group response segment. Do 1-3 rounds. Can be used as a prelude to a text-based discussion or by itself.

Roles

Facilitator/timekeeper (who also participates); participants

Process

1. Sit in a circle and identify a facilitator/timekeeper.
2. If participants have not done so ahead of time, have them read the text and identify passages that they feel may have important implications for their work.
3. Do 1-3 rounds. A round consists of:
 - One person using up to 3 minutes to:
 - Level 1: Read aloud the passage they have selected. If another participant has previously read one of your passages, select another to read.
 - Level 2: Say what they think about the passage (interpretation, connection to past experiences, etc.)
 - Level 3: Say what they see as the implications for their work.
 - The group responding (for a **total** of up to 2 minutes) to what has been said.
4. After all rounds have been completed, debrief the process.