

Assignment 1

INSTRUCTIONS

- In this assignment, you need to discuss the ideas you obtained from your readings with your group members
- Submit your discussion as indicated in lesson 1. Please do not attach any document when posting this assignment because other students may not be able to see the attached document and will not be able to comment on your post.
- Your response to both questions should be about 300 words.
- In addition to your post, you need to also respond comprehensively and respectfully to at least three (3) other students' posts
- Do not simply write agree or disagree. Give reasons why you agree or disagree as this will count as the interaction to the discussion. Simply writing **I AGREE/DISAGREE** will not give you a mark. **REMEMBER PLAGIARISM IS NOT ALLOWED.**

YOUR ASSIGNMENT STARTS HERE:

Mr. Whitson taught sixth-grade science. On the first day of class, he gave his class a lecture about a creature called the cattywampus, an ill-adapted nocturnal animal that was wiped out during the Ice Age. He passed around a skull as he talked. All the class took notes and later had a quiz.

When he returned the test papers, everyone was shocked. Everyone in the class had failed. What had happened?

Very simple, Mr. Whitson explained. He had made up all the stuff about the cattywampus. There had never been any such animal. The information in the notes was, therefore, incorrect. Did the class expect credit for incorrect answers?

Needless to say, the class was outraged. What kind of test was this? And what kind of teacher?

You should have figured it out, Mr. Whitson said. After all, at the every moment he was passing around the cattywampus skull (in truth, a cat's), hadn't he been telling his class that no trace of the animal remained? He had described its amazing night vision, the color of its fur and any number of other facts he couldn't have known. He had given the animal a ridiculous name, and the learners still hadn't been suspicious. The zeroes on his learners' papers would be recorded in his grade book, he said. And they were.

Mr. Whitson said he hoped his class would learn something from this experience. Teachers and textbooks are not infallible. In fact, no one is. He

told the class not to let their minds go to sleep, and to speak up if they ever thought he or the textbook was wrong.

Every class was an adventure with Mr. Whitson. One day he told his class that his Volkswagon was a living organism. It took his class two full days to put together a refutation he would accept. He didn't let his learners off the hook until they had proved not only that they knew what an organism was but also that they had the fortitude to stand up for the truth.

Mr Whitson's learners carried a brand-new skepticism into all their classes. This caused problems for the other teachers, who weren't used to being challenged.

1. Identify the seven roles of a teacher that Mr Whitson played out in his class. (2 x 7 = 14)
2. Give an example for each role that Mr Whitson played out. (3 x 7 = 21)

Evaluation: Your work will be assessed in the following way:

1. 2 marks for identifying a correct role played by Mr Whitson.
2. 3 marks for giving a correct example for each identified role.

NB Identified roles played by Mr Whitson with no example will not be given marks.

3. Posting

Responding to three (3) posts and supporting your response to the three posts with factual information (5)

Total = 40