

PORTFOLIO ENTRY – Application of Laws of Learning

During Year One of the National Training Institute, you were introduced to E.L. Thorndike's Laws of Learning. These laws provide a framework for making decisions related to how an instructor should plan, deliver, and evaluate technical instruction. As a technical instructor, you should consider and apply these laws to your instruction.

ASSIGNMENT

Consider a lesson that you have recently taught or will be teaching in the near future. Using this worksheet, give a brief interpretation (your personal reflections) of each law and explain how you addressed each of the Laws of Learning. Give specific examples of activities performed by you or your students to support the law for the particular lesson that you chose. Be sure to review your notes and materials manual from your first year courses while completing this assignment.

Title of Lesson:

Date(s) of Lesson:

Primary Delivery Methods Used:

PRIMARY LAWS

LAW OF READINESS—A person learns best when he or she is ready to learn and can connect previous experiences with new ones.

Interpretation of the Law of Readiness

Examples of Activities Performed to Support the Law of Readiness

LAW OF EXERCISE—Learning and retention are strengthened if an experience is followed by practice.

Interpretation of the Law of Exercise

Examples of Activities Performed to Support the Law of Exercise

LAW OF EFFECT—Learning and retention are strengthened if an experience is followed by pleasure and weakened if followed by displeasure.

Interpretation of the Law of Effect

Examples of Activities Performed to Support the Law of Effect

SECONDARY LAWS

LAWS OF PRIMACY AND RECENCY—Apprentices will remember material presented first and last more readily than other material.

Interpretation of the Laws of Primacy and Recency

Examples of Activities Performed to Support the Laws of Primacy and Recency

LAW OF INTENSITY—If the stimulus or experience is real, dramatic, or exciting; the more likely there is to be change in behavior.

Interpretation of the Law of Intensity

Examples of Activities Performed to Support the Law of Intensity