Introduction

Welcome to this Introduction of the Applied Learning Platform that is hosted at the WhenKnowingMatters.com website.

The Applied Learning Platform is a set of comprehensive and cost-effective web-base tools, that educators can use to teach learners how to think critically, and solve problems. The Platform is used to create a teaching and learning environment that asks learners to:

Learn, Think, and Do, rather than, Memorize, Recall, and Spew.

Educators use the Platform at the WhenKnowingMatters.com website to create <u>interactive</u> applied learning activities, which are sent to learners, who then use the Platform at the website to work through those activities.

Applied learning activities can range from simple drill and practice exercises, to complex evidence-based assessments of real-world cases and scenarios.

Activities can be created for any domain, and they can represent understanding at any level of detail.

The only required technical skills for using the Platform by educators and learners are the ability to type, and to select, copy, and paste text.

An educator can create a simple interactive applied learning activity in under five minutes.

At its essence, the Applied Learning Platform allows educators and learners to see what one another is thinking in the form of an outlined evidence-based assessment.

I will explain this in much greater detail in subsequent videos.

For now, I will begin this Introduction series with a brief overview of the Applied Learning Platform, followed by videos on the learning principles and concepts that underlie the Platform's design and effective implementation.

These principles and concepts include:
Competence
Mental Schemas
Context Applied Learning
Cognitive Load Theory
Bloom's Revised Taxonomy
Gagné's 9 Events of Instruction
Case Applied Learning Compared to Case-based Learning

Real-world tasks and their Corresponding Applied Learning Activities
A General Approach to Designing Applied Learning Activities.

I understand that even listening to a list of these topics can cause one's eyes to role back into their sockets, because when I first heard about them, mine did. That acknowledged, these topics are perhaps the most important of the video series because understanding them will bring you value even if you decide that the Applied Learning Platform is not a tool you want to use. And if the Platform **is** a tool you want to use, an understanding of these topics is essential for creating effective applied learning activities.

In my effort to be brief in my explanations, I know that listener responses will range from gratitude that I am mercifully brief, to angst that I am excruciatingly incomplete, or even inaccurate according to one particular perspective or another. I encourage you to explore on your own these topics and their explanations by others.

In an effort to respect your time, I will move quickly through these presentations. Feel free to pause any of the videos in this series and reflect on how what is being presented applies to your domain and mission. It may also be helpful to discuss this material with a colleague.

The next video in this series is, A General Overview of the Applied Learning Platform. In it I will explain from a broad conceptual perspective how the Platform is used.

Tutorials on the specifics of authoring and working through applied learning activities are found in the Section, Using the Applied Learning Platform. (1:50)

Thank you for watching.