

In this example, a teacher wanted to facilitate 21st century learning throughout a series of lessons for a grade nine ELA class where students read and responded to a text exploring the theme of personal identity. In the original lessons, students read chapters of the book both as a class and independently. The teacher facilitated ongoing discussions where students were prompted to consider the deeper meaning of the book and how characters' personal identities affected their wellbeing. The teacher held several tests throughout the unit, which involved both recall of specific, static facts, and an analysis of the book's themes. At the end of the unit, students were expected to use word processing software to write a personal essay describing aspects of their personal identity in relation to the text.

Use the space provided below each prompt to brainstorm ideas about how you could adapt the lesson to better align with each principle of 21st century learning.

The 4Cs

How might we make the learning in this activity more creative?

How might we help students instigate research; develop ideas, solutions, and products; and share creations with authentic audiences?

How might we make the learning in this activity better involve critical thinking?

How might we help students actively interpret, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and apply complex information?

How might we make the learning in this activity more collaborative?

How might we help students work together and use effective communication to construct a common understanding of the topic?

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<p>How might we make learning in this activity better involve communication?</p> <p>How might we help students interpret meaning and effectively express ideas in diverse forms and contexts?</p>

Additional Dimensions of 21st Century Learning

<p>How might we make the learning in this activity more active?</p> <p>How might we ensure students are highly engaged in the active building of knowledge?</p>

<p>How might we make the learning in this activity more authentic?</p> <p>How might we help students engage in meaningful work that explores real challenges connected to the discipline and is connected to communities beyond the classroom?</p>

<p>How might we make the learning in this activity more interdisciplinary?</p> <p>How might we help students consider multiple disciplinary perspectives, create connections between them, and integrate knowledge into a more comprehensive understanding of the topic?</p>

How might we make the learning in this activity more participatory?

How might we help students make choices about what they learn, produce work similar to domain experts would, and share their learning with broader communities?

How might we make the learning in this activity involve more effective assessment methods?

How might we ensure diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments are connected and provide students with feedback that improves their work, supports meaningful comparisons, and shows them their progress?

How might we make the learning in this activity better develop digital literacy?

How might we ensure learning involves accessing, using, and producing digital information or digital media, and/or using digital technologies to communicate and share with others?