

**OTS 510 Instructional Technique  
LESSON PLAN**

**Methods of Instruction**

**4 Periods**

**Introduction**

With this last session on Instructional Technique, we will examine a number of different types of instruction that can be used with cadets. We will discuss each method's appropriate use and their respective advantages and disadvantages.

**General**

Overall, there are a variety of ways that a lesson can be taught. Although each instructor will have their own personal way to teach a class, you should be able to adapt and use the different methods of teaching.

1. **Discussion Method** - In the discussion method, the instructor will present a problem, question, or topic to the class. The class will then discuss and evaluate various factors dealing with the topic. The instructor should then draw the group's ideas together into some sort of conclusion.

Uses:

- To develop imaginative solutions to problems.
- To stimulate thinking and interest.
- To secure cadets' participation.
- To determine how well cadets understand the concepts and principles.
- To foster attitudinal change.

Advantages

- Stimulates thinking and interest.
- Increases cadets motivation.
- Increases cadet acceptance and commitment.
- Utilizes cadets knowledge and experience.
- Results in more permanent levels of learning due to higher degree of participation.

Disadvantages

- Requires flexible instructors.
- Limits content of class.
- Restricts the size of the group involved.
- The cadets must have some prior knowledge or experience on the topic.

2. **Guided Discovery** - The instructor will present a problem or ask a question and then guide the group towards an answer or solution. The instructor is free to give hints, redirect approaches, or answer any questions that may arise.

#### Uses

- To present material that the cadets would be able to figure out with a small amount of assistance.
- To review complicated material.

#### Advantages

- Stimulates thinking.
- Increases understanding.
- Gives cadets a chance to find answers for themselves.
- Presents a challenge to the cadets.
- Increases participation.

#### Disadvantages

- Can be time consuming.
- Requires direction from instructor.

3. **Problem Solving** - Instructor will give the cadets a problem to solve or an exercise, and they are left to solve it by discussion in small groups.

#### Uses

- To apply theoretical learning to practical situations.

#### Advantages

- Increases understanding.
- Increases participation.
- Presents a challenge.
- Increases the retention of information due to participation.

#### Disadvantages

- Time consuming.
- Requires careful preparation.
- Can be frustrating if cadets do not find a solution.

4. **Role Playing** - The cadets or instructors assume a role as a person or object involved in performing a skill.

#### Uses

- To illustrate proper procedures or interactions.
- Safety procedures.
- Allows cadets to visualize verbal explanations.
- Increases activity level of the lesson.

### Advantages

- Stimulates thinking.
- Creates a fun environment which enhances learning.
- Is useful in leadership training.
- It may draw out shy cadets.

### Disadvantages

- Can require careful preparation.
- Can be time consuming.
- Cadets may be too shy to participate.

5. **Game Playing** - Cadets are given a game to play out and practice realistic behaviours in the form of a game.

### Uses

- Reinforces or practices previously learned skills.
- Reviews material.
- Increases activity and participation.
- Maintains interest in material.

### Advantages

- Creates a fun environment.
- May encourage cadets to be more energetic when a little competition is introduced.
- Cadets may be more willing to participate in classes.

### Disadvantages

- Can become over-competitive if taken too seriously.
- Cadets may be too shy to want to participate.
- Instructor may have difficulty to maintain control.

### **Conclusion**

In this lesson, you have been introduced to 5 different methods of instruction. It is your role as the instructor to determine which style will be most effective for each subject. Remember that maintaining interest through a variety of means will help facilitate the learning process.

### Evaluation – Present a Lesson

Candidates should come to the weekend prepared to present a lesson. The lesson should be 20 –30 minutes in length, and be taken directly from the Navy League CTS. All aspects of the Instructional Technique seminars will be put into use now, including Method of Instruction. Candidates should prepare themselves with a proper lesson plan and make use of effective training aids.

The evaluating officer will be assessing the candidates on the following:

<b>Planning</b>												
Lesson Plan used	0					5						/5
Lesson Plan effective?	0	1	2	3	4	5						/5
<b>Principles of Instruction</b> (score marks for effective use)												
Interest	0	1	2	3	4	5						/30
Comprehension	0	1	2	3	4	5						
Emphasis	0	1	2	3	4	5						
Participation	0	1	2	3	4	5						
Accomplishment	0	1	2	3	4	5						
Confirmation	0	1	2	3	4	5						
<b>Training Aids</b>												
Were the training aids pertinent to the lesson?	0	1	2	3	4	5						/15
Were the training aids used effectively?	0	1	2	3	4	5						
Did the training aids enhance the lesson?	0	1	2	3	4	5						
<b>Confirmation</b>												
Did the instructor use the proper questioning technique?	0	1	2	3	4	5						/10
Did the instructor answer the trainee's questions effectively?	0	1	2	3	4	5						
<b>Structure</b> (opening, body, closing)	0	1	2	3	4	5						/5
<b>Method of Instruction</b> (Was it effective?)	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	/20
<b>Speaking</b> (Loud, clear, well-presented)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	/10
<b>Total</b>												/100

Each candidate should get a debriefing after his or her presentation.