INSTRUCTIONAL ROUTINES

How to open a classroom:

1. After welcoming your students; you refer to the objectives of the day and the agenda for the day’s lesson and give them a brief explanation why this is important.

Explanation: This is the basic classroom opening. By providing the objective, the students know what they are going to learn for the day. Then agenda provides them a timetable they can expect to follow. This helps you stay on track as most people want to stay on track and accomplish all required items and it provides as a guide to keep you on track.

2. **Roundtable Review**; with this activity, students get out a sheet of paper and write a list of numbers from one to 10. Then instruct the students to put one important idea from the previous lecture on the first line. The paper is passed to the person on the left. Each time the paper is passed, the person receiving the paper writes a different idea. After a few minutes call time, and the papers go back to the original owner. This makes a nice collection of ideas for future review and study.

Explanation; Tthe preparation for these activities takes very little time and that the results are very worthwhile. Students anticipate the activities, and it places the students in a place where they are ready to learn.

How to close a classroom:

1. You can use a folding paper technique; where you have your students take out a piece of paper fold it in half and fold in half again, this gives you four quadrants on the paper. You place one of the following statements in each quadrant: What we learned about today; This is Important Because; A Picture or Diagram about this subject; Questions.

Explanation: This is a good technique as it will give you feedback if the students grasped the lesson and let you know if there are any questions that you need to review. They can use the diagram section to place a formula or a phrase as a lesson reminder. In addition, by answering why is this important it helps you see if the students are gaining the understanding they need.

2. Provide a test question technique; you ask a the students to provide a test question over the material you just covered, or over the material for the week.

Explanation: This will get the students reviewing the information covered and allow you to see what they deem as important. In addition, you can use some of the students questions in your tests making the students feel that they are contributing to their lessons.