Laurillard's 12 mathemagenic activities

Conceptual description

- 1. Teacher describes the conception.
- 2. Student re-expresses the conception.
- 3. Teacher redescribes the conception in the light of the student's expression or action.
- 4. Student redescribes the conception in the light of the teacher's redescription.

Personal experience / action

- 5. Teacher sets task goal.
- 6. Student acts to achieve the task goal.
- 7. Teacher's world gives feedback on the action.
- 8. Student modifies actions in the light of feedback.

<u>Reflection</u>: (linking description and experience)

- 9. Student reflects on action to modify description.
- 10. Student adapts action in light of concept.
- 11. Teacher adapts task goal in light of student's description.
- 12. Teacher reflects on action to modify description.



Laurillard's diagram of 12 activities for teaching and learning.

It is redrawn with the numbers modified from fig.II.1, p.103, in Laurillard, D. (1993) **Rethinking university teaching:** A framework for the effective use of educational technology (Routledge: London).

| Learners benefit from others with and without special expertise, intention, or being personally known + indicates an activity initiated by the learner (proactive-ness) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| Helper's expertise | Intention to teach | Personal relationship (contingent action) | Not personal |
| Unequal, staff, benefit not reciprocal | Intended | Teacher monitoring, Scaffolding of procedural skills + Ask a tutor | Lecturing, Writing a textbook, + Asking an expert |
| | Unintended | Role model (using a teacher as), (+) Imitating or observing someone more knowledgable whom you know | + Eavesdropping on strangers, Using a celebrity or hero as a role model, + Studying the career of a politician to gain similar success |
| Equal, peer, reciprocal benefit | Intended | + Alternating roles e.g. testing each other, student reciprocal critiquing, The same but imposed by staff | Wikipedia, Anonymised versions of student reciprocal critiquing, + Posting a question to a forum |
| | Unintended | Peer discussion, + Borrowing lecture notes, + Spying on, imitating, or observing a classmate you know | Anonymous peer review, + Comparing your marks or actions to the class norm, + Listening to classmates' questions and comments, + Mutual help with the process e.g. ask where the classroom is. |