

Inference Learning At a Glance

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Definition:

Higher of two generic types of skill learning. In inference learning students are guided by the teacher to learn skills and tonal and rhythm patterns by teaching themselves. Students are not taught by imitation in inference learning (Gordon, 2012, p. 398).

Inference learning includes:

- Generalization:
 - Generalization- aural/oral
 - Generalization-verbal
 - Generalization- symbolic
- Creativity/Improvisation:
 - Creativity/Improvisation-aural/oral
 - Creativity/Improvisation-symbolic
- Theoretical Understanding:
 - Theoretical Understanding-aural/oral
 - Theoretical understanding-verbal
 - Theoretical understanding-symbolic.

What does learning at the Inference level look like?

- Teacher guides students in how to learn.
- With teacher's guidance, students use what they have learned to teach themselves.
- Students identify what is unfamiliar on the basis of what they know to be familiar.
- Students use what they have learned through guided improvisatory activities.
- Teacher guides students to use what they know to discover something they don't know.