

### The Role of Educator in a Digital World

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#### December 1, 2010

for Skills Tasmania and the Australian Flexible Learning Framework

#### Recent Work

- the development of online learning software, such as gRSShopper, Synergic3, and Plearn
- offering a series of open online courses, such as CCK08 and 09, Critical Literacies, and PLENK
- theorizing around the idea of connective knowledge and learning communities
- writing OLDaily, giving talks, attending conferences (input input input)

This Approach:

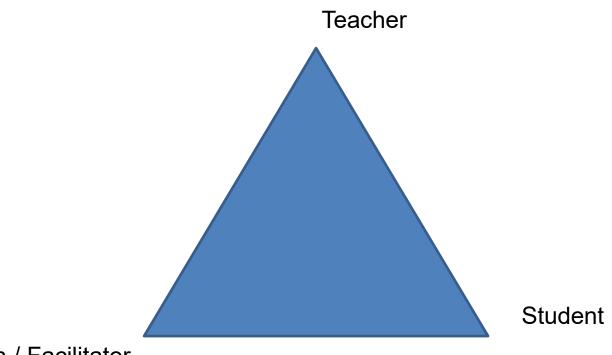
- emphasizes open learning and learner autonomy
- argues that course content is merely a tool employed to support learning,
- fosters a wider and often undefined set of competencies associated with a
- exercises in activities requiring those competencies
- grows knowledge rather than to transfer or construct knowledge through cognitive processes

Major Underlying Theme:

- the role of the educator will change dramatically
- not a 'sage on the stage'
- neither merely that of the 'guide by the side'
- students need to be able to look to prototypes on which to model their own work
- the instructor, therefore, is required to take an active role in the disciplinary or professional community

- The role of the educator is expanding, and the educator must be a master of a discipline
- The learning environment has become more complex, and learner support more difficult
- the continued focus on "the role of the educator" or teacher is misplaced

- Triad model
- Examine roles and unbundle where necessary



Coach / Facilitator

- Educational Video
  - Khan Academy
  - TED
  - Free Video Lectures

#### Some Examples

- Free Video Lectures <u>http://freevideolectures.com/</u>
- Roots and Shoots <u>http://www.rootsandshoots.org/campaigns</u>
- Challenge Based Learning <a href="http://ali.apple.com/cbl/">http://ali.apple.com/cbl/</a>
- Serialized Courses <u>http://course.downes.ca</u>

#### The Roles:



#### The Learner



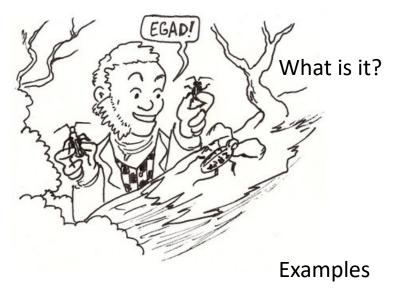
What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://www.freeprintablecoloringpages.net/showcover/School/Sad\_Student

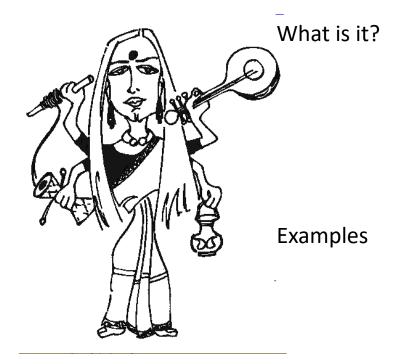
#### The Collector



#### Who Does It?

Image: http://satisfactorycomics.blogspot.com/2009/02/darwin-cartoons-for-darwins-200th.html

## The Curator



Who Does It?

Image: <u>http://www.indiaifa.org/stafftrusteearticle.asp?id=171</u>

## The Alchemist



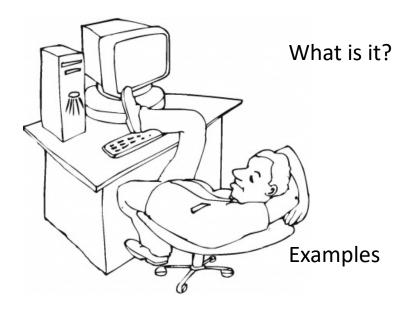
What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: <u>http://heterodoxology.wordpress.com/2010/05/29/an-etiology-of-angelic-vision-article-on-john-dee-and-edward-kelly-in-aries/</u>

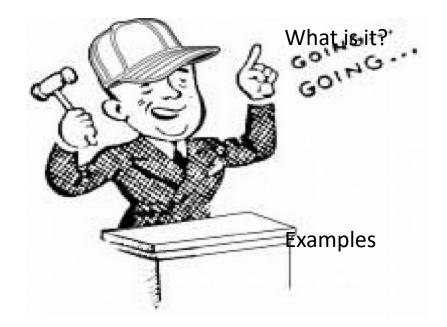
#### The Programmer



Who Does It?

Image: <u>http://www.supercoloring.com/pages/lazy-programmer/</u>

#### The Salesperson



Who Does It?

Image: http://therealestateloungechicago.com/2009/11/21/chicago-south-loop-condo-auction/

#### The Convener



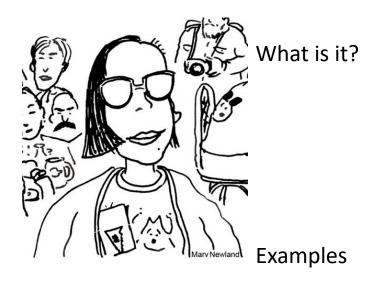
What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://www.coneinc.com/content2028

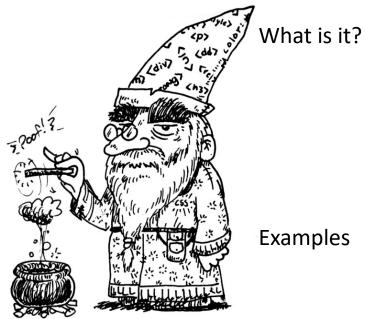
#### The Coordinator



Who Does It?

Image: http://www.primopix.com/biography.shtml

#### The Designer



Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://illustration-design.blogspot.com/2008/12/caricatures-of-design-forum.html

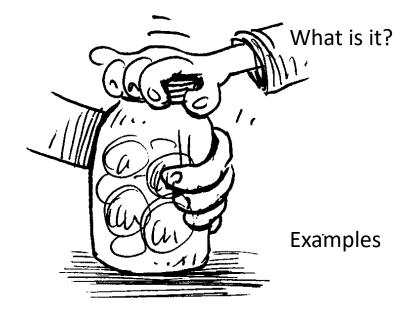
#### The Coach



Who Does It?

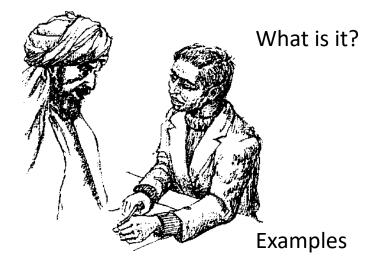
Image: http://printables.kaboose.com/soccer-cartoon.html

# The Agitator



Who Does It?

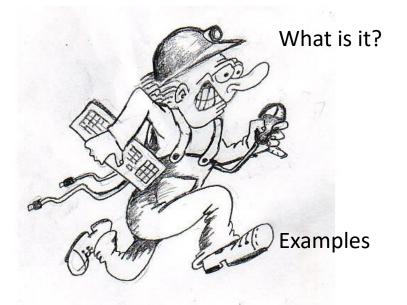
#### The Facilitator



#### Who Does It?

Image: http://www.fao.org/docrep/t0807e/t0807e04.htm

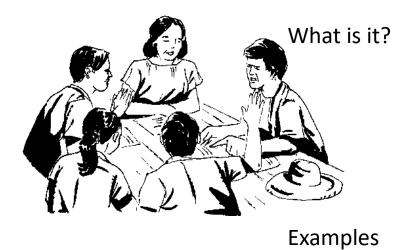
# Tech Support



#### Who Does It?

Image: <u>http://www.jroller.com/mert/entry/a\_day\_of\_a\_software</u>

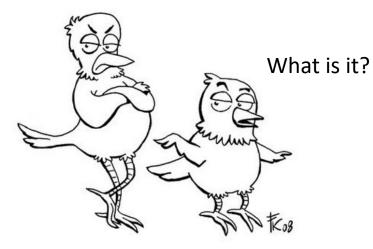
#### The Moderator



Who Does It?

Image: <u>http://scintillatingly-astute.blogspot.com/</u>

# The Critic

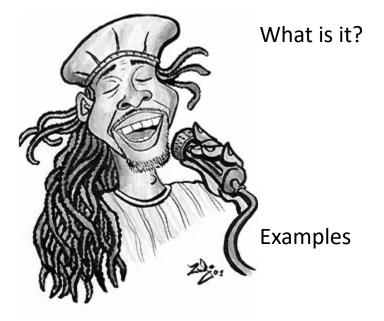


Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://frankkennedysillustrations.blogspot.com/2008\_10\_01\_archive.html

#### The Lecturer



Who Does It?

Image: http://kajsaha.com/2009/05/kojo-antwi-and-accomodation-in-ghana/

#### The Demonstrator



What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://www.aryadevi.co.cc/2010/10/bagaimana-gaya-guru-idealnya.html

#### The Mentor



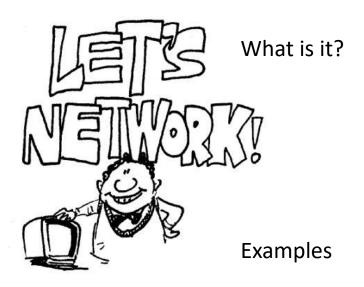
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Examples

Who Does It?

Image: http://www.sinigaglia.com/drstest5/page38/page38.html

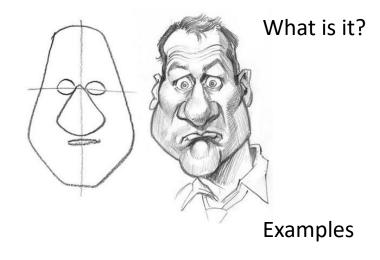
#### The Connector



Who Does It?

Image: http://blogs.rediff.com/balanmangudi/

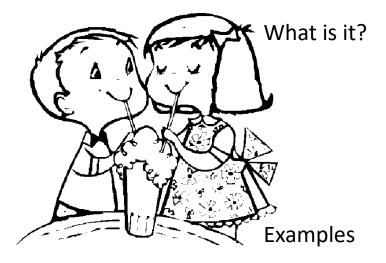
## The Theorizer



#### Who Does It?

Image: <a href="http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/09/08/50-clever-tutorials-and-techniques-on-traditional-drawing/">http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/09/08/50-clever-tutorials-and-techniques-on-traditional-drawing/</a>

#### The Sharer



Who Does It?

Image: <a href="http://www.kookerkids.com/Coloring/color\_3\_sharing.htm">http://www.kookerkids.com/Coloring/color\_3\_sharing.htm</a>

#### The Evaluator



What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: <a href="http://www.powayusd.com/teachers/dsykes/viking\_age\_archaeology\_on\_the\_is.htm">http://www.powayusd.com/teachers/dsykes/viking\_age\_archaeology\_on\_the\_is.htm</a>

#### The Bureaucrat



What is it?

Examples

Who Does It?

Image: <a href="http://www.marxists.org/history/etol/writers/kerry/1955/xx/aflciomerger.htm">http://www.marxists.org/history/etol/writers/kerry/1955/xx/aflciomerger.htm</a>

- That's 23 roles and there are probably more
- These roles could be broken down even further
- But the main point is the role of 'the educator' breaks down into many different tasks

- What 'role of the educator' is so important in learning?
- The likely answer is:
  - It's all of them
  - And it varies student by student
- Educators themselves have been gravitating toward one or another role

- Not every student needs every role
- Not every teacher performs every role equally
- This should lead us to think about possible efficiencies
- This is what's happening outside institutions anyways

- I am not proposing a reengineering (there's no way that would work)
- I am talking about the beginnings of a rethink
- And gradually, we as educators will begin to realign ourselves to fill these new roles, or roles we invent ourselves