

Using the different lenses of students, colleagues, personal and theory for critical reflection (Brookfield, 2017) can be helpful when reflecting on your story.



Reflect on your own story using each of the following lenses:



Personal

Examining our experiences of learning to teach and how these may have unconsciously shaped our own practice



Students

Exploring our students' perceptions and experiences of what we do in order to become aware of the impact of our actions and assumptions on relationships, dispositions and learning



Colleagues

Seeking our colleagues' perceptions and experiences of what we do in order to illuminate aspects of our practice that are normally hidden, or to see them in a new light



Theory

Engaging with theoretical frameworks and research in the literature, in pursuit of alternative interpretations of familiar situations

Each lens provides a different perspective from which to examine our practice. Using them can allow us to make sense of and 'name' what we do. They can also be used as mirrors to reflect back different versions of how our actions are received and interpreted by others.



Brookfield, Stephen D. 2017. *Becoming a critically reflective teacher*: John Wiley & Sons.

Question to go under relevant lens:

Questions and activities to consider for each lens:

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| Students | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did the student(s) involved experience this incident?• What impact did it have on our relationship with them?• What impact did it have on the students' attitudes?• What impact did it have on the students' learning?• How could I find out their perspective?• Would it be helpful to hear their perspective? |
| Colleagues | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who can provide me with useful insight into this experience?• How will I invite their feedback?• Can I share my story with colleagues and allow them to ask me questions that help to reveal my assumptions?• Invite colleagues to give alternative interpretations of the events you describe |
| Personal | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are there any reasons why I might have felt/behaved in this way?• Have I experienced anything similar in the past? |
| Theory | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are there other ways of approaching this issue that I could investigate?• Can I find a useful book or article to help?• Is there anyone who can help to direct me towards alternative resources?• Reading theory can suggest different interpretations of familiar events and other ways of working |