Using Activators for Universal Design

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Type of Activator	Benefits for Students*	Example	Notes
Inquiry	Chunking, Engaging Interest, Structure, Repetition	Find patterns in derivatives you've taken; apply "derivative is slope" to constant function; discover meaning of "and"/"or"	
Component of New Lesson	Chunking, Structure, Repetition, Managing Cognitive Load	Solving matrix equation before LU factorization; Find missing exponents before logarithms	
Analogy Review	Chunking, Structure, Managing Cognitive Load	Reviewing "shaded areas" before teaching volumes of solids of revolution	
Writing	Engaging Interest, Repetition	Which distribution has more variation and why? (introduction to standard deviation)	
Assessment	Structure, Repetition	Reading Quiz, Homework Quiz, Vocab Quiz	
Motivation	Engaging Interest	Convoluted T/F questions (intro to logic); Find slope of $f(x) = x^2$ (intro to derivative); applications	
Review	Repetition	Old stuff with no connection; recent material that will build; recent material that students are struggling with	
Homework Related	Explicit Instruction, Engaging Interest, Structure, Repetition	Use HW as component of new lesson or motivation. Extend HW to get at deeper concept.	
Big Picture	Explicit Instruction, Chunking, Engaging Interest, Repetition, Managing Cognitive Load	Build a "mind-map" throughout course or unit. Repeat the "story" of the unit, adding the new step.	
Finish Previous Lesson	Repetition, Managing Cognitive Load		

^{*}The table does not include "Activating Prior Knowledge," which is a benefit to all of these activators.

Students I will focus on:	Topics I will focus on:			
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Which might be helpful for these students/topics? Why?				
(Explicit Instruction, Structure, Chunking, Repetition, Engaging Interest, Managing Cognitive Load)				
My Inquiry Activator, and its benefits:				
My "Component of New Task" Activator, and its benefits:				
My Analogy Review, Writing, or Assessment Activator,	and its benefits:			
My Motivation, Review, Homework Related, or Big Picture Activator, and its benefits:				
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