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SYNTHESIZING LEARNING in remote/online K-12 settings

SUMMARY HANDOUT

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Key options worth considering:

(S=synchronous session or F2F; A=asynchronous online or regular homework)

- A. Teacher's summary at the end of a lesson, while taking notes (S)
- B. Teacher's recap at the beginning of the next lesson (S)
- C. Teacher's posted summary notes (A)
- D. "What Have I Learned" class reflection, with teacher taking notes (S)
- E. Students' private reflective journal (A)
- F. Students' synthesis post (publicly shared) (A)

Key tips:

- Make sure you set aside sufficient time in your plan for this critical activity
- Purposefully plan how to create records of the synthesis done, for future reference
- Be explicit about why you are doing it, as students may not appreciate its value
- Prepare students to be able to eventually do this synthesis on their own

Key decisions to be made – in addition to HOW MUCH reading to assign (and related options to consider):

WHEN:	WHO does it:	RECORDS created:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"In the moment"</i> • <i>End of lesson</i> • <i>Recap at beginning of next lesson</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teacher</i> • <i>Teacher w/ students' input</i> • <i>Students w/ teacher's guidance</i> • <i>Individual Student (independently)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i> • <i>Collective notes</i> • <i>Individual</i> • <i>Full recording</i>

Useful online tools:

- Online synch sessions, and related recording features (Zoom; Google Meet; ec.)
- Online repository for notes (any LMs; Padlet)
- Journal/ assignment function (most LMSs)

Reflective questions about specific implementations of this practice:

- *What did you do to help your students synthesize what they learned?*
- *What decisions did you make (and why) about WHEN, WHO, and RECORDS?*
- *What worked/didn't work and why?*
- *What may you want to do differently next time?*