



Collect, Select, Reflect: Reflective Writing - the focal point of A Student Teacher ePortfolio

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Challenges:

- **Classroom management.**
- **Motivating low achievers in class.**
- **Meeting a vast variety of needs in class.**
- **Identifying the most effective tools to teach the students what they need to know.**
- **Learning to use the technologies available and to make the best use of them in class.**

Technology is the key to locking in a student's interest.
The challenge is how.

This means that teaching demands :

- Broad knowledge of subject matter, curriculum and standards;
- Enthusiasm, a caring attitude, & a love of learning;
- Classroom management techniques.

Teacher training has become a very difficult mission to accomplish, even more so if our aim is to make of student teachers reflective practitioners.

The single most important factor determining the quality of the education a child receives is the quality of his teacher.

In Malta there are two paths to obtaining a teacher's qualification and warrant

A diagram consisting of two red arrows pointing downwards and outwards from a single point at the top, indicating two separate paths or options.

B.Ed(Hons)

P.G.C.E.

- the study of pedagogy
- from a prospective teacher to a reflective practitioner

The emphasis on reflective practice is viewed as an attempt to merge theory and practice in teacher education

(Orland-Barak & Yinon, 2007)

Without the disposition to reflect on their performance, teachers are less likely to improve their practice or to be able to see the links between theory and practice.

To enhance competence and improve professional development, teachers must reflect critically on the actions performed in instruction.



Reflective teaching means:

- Looking at what one does in the classroom
- Thinking about why s/he does it
- Thinking about if it works

A process of self-observation and self-evaluation.

By collecting information about what goes on in the classroom, and by analysing and evaluating this information, the student teacher identifies and explores his/her own practices and underlying beliefs. This should lead to changes and improvements in teaching.



STeP:

To enhance ST's professional development through reflective writing by means of electronic discussions, self-assessments, and peer coaching.

It provides STs with guidelines for self-assessment by incorporating examples of self-reflection and guidelines regarding the preparation of reflective writing and prompt feedback.

Reflection is crucial in the ePortfolio process and without it, the ePortfolio becomes merely storage.



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THANK YOU

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