

Education

For  **TEACHER
TRANSFORMATION
INSTITUTE**



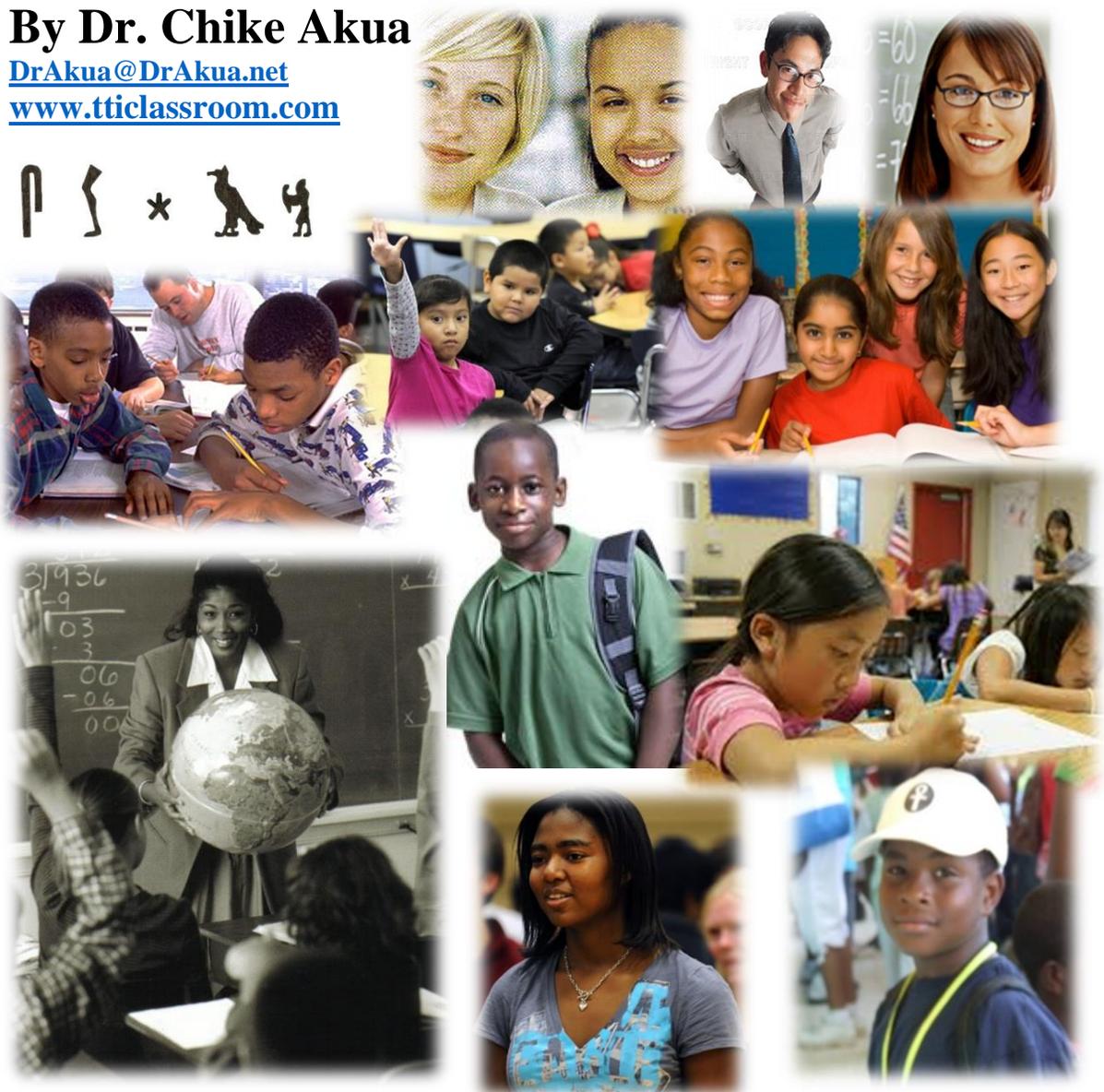
Transformation

Culturally Relevant Instructional Strategies for
Increasing Student Success

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SESSION 1: What is Education for Transformation?

1. Education for Transformation is the process of capturing and practicing the African and African American tradition of educational _____.
2. Our children are chosen for _____, _____ and _____.
3. *Nsaa* means “excellence and _____.”
4. *Seba* is the oldest word in human history relative to teaching. It means, “teach, “door” and “_____.”
5. The African philosophy of education is “the teacher opens the door to the future so that the student may _____ like a star.”

SESSION 2: What Is Culture?

1. According to Dr. Wade Nobles, culture provides a general design for _____ and rules for interpreting _____.
2. According to Dr. Marimba Ani, culture is ordered _____.
3. When working with African American students, bear in mind:
AFRICAN is their DNA and _____ affiliation.
AMERICAN is their citizenship and geographical _____.
4. According to Dr. Amos Wilson, “History is what creates a shared _____ in people.”
5. But Dr. Amos Wilson also states, “If our study of Black history is merely an exercise in feeling good, then we will _____ feeling good.”

SESSION 3: What is African-Centered Education (ACE)?

Multicultural education examines ideas, events and concepts through the _____ of different cultures.

What is African-Centered Education?

Centering ourselves and our students in the _____ of African culture:

- To examine and analyze _____,
- meet _____ and
- solve _____ in African communities.

-Dr. Chike Akua



SESSION 4: What is Cultural Identity Theft & Identity Restoration?

1. According to Dr. Na'im Akbar, "the first function of education is to provide _____."
2. According to Dr. Asa Hilliard, "the only thing standing between us and excellence is our _____."
3. For conscious and committed educators, education is identity _____.
4. If the wise village Elders don't teach the youth, the village _____ most certainly will." (African Proverb).
5. According to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, *miseducation* is the process of omitting truthful _____ knowledge and not preparing students for life as they will _____ it.
6. According to Mwalimu Baruti, miseducation leads to _____: a process that leads the student to _____ the very idea of learning.

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SESSION 5: What Are Cognitive Styles?

1. Cognitive styles represent the ways in which groups of people tend to _____ understand and process information.
2. African American students are known to be more _____ in their cognitive style.
3. Most teaching in American schools is done from an _____ cognitive style.

LEFT BRAIN

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Cognitive Styles



LEFT BRAIN

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

SESSION 6: How Do We Infuse African & African American Content Into the Curriculum?

1. Who are the models of intellectual _____ in your classroom and in your school?
2. Whose knowledge is worth _____?
3. Whose _____ are reflected in what I teach and how I teach and lead?

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SESSION 7: Malcolm X: Who Are You? (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63OHMLf9wUc>)

Directions: Write each question Malcolm X asks in this brief video clip.

SESSION 8: Ahmed Baba and the University of Sankore at Timbuktu

Directions: As you listen to the video clip, write down brief notes about Ahmed Baba and the University of Sankore at Timbuktu that you were unaware of.



Ahmed Baba and the University of Sankore

From the 1300s to the 1700s, Timbuktu was one of the greatest cities in all of Africa. Situated near the Niger River, this great center of learning was known throughout the land. It was also an important trading center for gold, salt, iron, and books. Timbuktu had quite a reputation for educational excellence and wealth—so much so, that students and scholars came from all over Africa, Asia, and Europe to study at the famed University of Sankore. Being near the river gave people easy access to this thriving city of trade and education and attracted many people.

Ahmed Baba was the President of the University of Sankore for 30 years. During this time he upheld the African standard of excellence, running the university with great vision. Also during this time, he authored 42 books. This means he wrote more than one book per year in addition to his duties as president. Additionally, Ahmed Baba had over 1600 books that he owned in his personal library. This shows that he knew the power of books to transform the mind. To Africans who introduced the art of writing to the world, books were sacred and holy.

Books were valued so much that people paid for books using only gold. The book a person desired to purchase would be placed on one side of a scale and gold dust would be sprinkled on the other side of the scale until the scales were balanced. Books in Timbuktu and in the Empires of Mali and Songhay were literally, “worth their weight in gold.” Because of this, the book industry was just as lucrative as the gold, salt, and iron industries.

People who studied at Timbuktu learned law, medicine and healing, writing and literature, astronomy (study of the stars), and agriculture (the study of farming) and much more. They took their knowledge and understanding of what they learned back to other parts of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Some even came to America. History also shows us that virtually every home in Timbuktu had an extensive library of books and manuscripts.



A portrait of Ahmed Baba (right) and the University of Sankore at Timbuktu (below).



- The word *situated* means:
 - educated
 - dictated
 - located
 - truncated
- People came from _____ to attend the University of Sankore:
 - all over Africa
 - Europe
 - Asia
 - all of these
- What attracted people to Timbuktu?
 - the University of Sankore
 - the trade industry
 - the fact that it was near the river
 - all of these
- Which of the following *best* proves that Ahmed Baba was an effective educational leader at University of Sankore?
 - he remained president for 30 years
 - he knew how to read
 - he had 1600 books in his personal library
 - he actually wasn't an effective leader
- Ahmed Baba knew that books:
 - were not very important
 - could transform a person's mind
 - could not be written by Black people
 - a and c only
- The word *lucrative* means:
 - profitable
 - poor
 - pitiful
 - penitent
- The word *sacred* means:
 - ungodly
 - holy
 - devilish
 - church
- What evidence shows the value of books in Timbuktu?
 - books were paid for using gold dust
 - almost every home had a library
 - people made as much money with books as with gold, salt, and iron
 - all of these
- People who studied at University of Sankore:
 - took the information back to Asia, Europe, and all over Africa
 - were poor students
 - didn't take their studies seriously
 - none of these
- Which of the following was offered at University of Sankore?
 - agriculture and astronomy
 - medicine and healing
 - writing and literature
 - all of these

