

JANET N. ZADINA, PH.D.
COMMENTS FROM CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS

As a result of this presentation I feel....

...that I have rejuvenated as a teacher
...more empowered to help my students learn
...empowered and enlightened
...more heartened that certain students can be reached
...empowered! These few hours today have helped me to become a stronger teacher.
...energized to try new things
...better about why people may learn in a different way (where it's coming from)
...like I have ideas to be a much more effective teacher
...inspired to put more excitement in my teaching
...affirmed
...that I can change my teaching angle for different students
...elated
...empowered as an educators as well as a human being
...validated and energized
...much more confident in my teaching
...enlightened – new energy
...more educated about different teaching strategies
...I can think 'outside my box or comfort zone'
...like I want to shout!
...reassured on my career choice
...that I have learned more about learning
...much more in tune with student learning capabilities and my capacity to influence/enhance them
...like I'll be a better teacher
...learning can be fun
...excited about teaching next week
...encouraged to try new things and try to incorporate more learning styles in presentation of material
...more aware of students' needs
...I have a greater understanding of how learning occurs.
...totally jazzed!
...I'm doing more correct than I thought
...supercharged
...more knowledgeable
...more informed about my own learning process and how to help others
...better equipped to counsel my students
...more excited about teaching/being part of the educational process
...fired up to start a new year with new ideas
...more compassion toward my EL learners
...more competent in understanding how people learn language
...empowered and smarter
...I can go back to school with a different perspective.
...inspired as if I had a revelation.
...we can find the best in all students. Not everyone is the same at learning in the same way and that is okay!
...humbled before my students
...after an incredibly stressful work week, I feel empowered and strengthened today.

...use these immediately.
...be more aware of some things I need to change about my delivery and practice.
...take my students' differences into account more often and encourage various learning styles.

Overall, I thought the presentation was.....

...fabulous
...amazingly, wonderfully applicable
...super
...exceptional
...definitely worth my six hour drive
...effective, entertaining, educational
...of the highest quality, highly appropriate for our group, stimulating
...informative. I can't wait to go back to my class to try the new strategies.
...fantastic! No holes
...one of the best I have ever seen
...practical/applicable
...phenomenal
...mesmerizing
...too short (it was six and half hours)
...extraordinary and really useful.
...FANTASTIC!!!!
...informative, motivating, effective, and relevant to my teaching skills.
...really, really awesome!
...that I can design lesson plans for maximum learning and pleasure for my students
...Excellent. Really, really good examples to explain concepts.
...very relevant to my teaching (and I teach accounting!)

This presentation will affect my teaching in that I will...

...involve students more actively
...do even more research
...have more compassion for students
...incorporate more strategies to foster student success
...use more activities to stimulate the brains of my students
...will be a better teacher and presenter
...bring more diversity to my teaching methodology.
...return to the classroom with renewed enthusiasm for being able to reach all students
...understand the individuality of each student and it will be addressed when using the methods and knowledge learned today.
...use all these strategies and remember the importance of enthusiasm.
...motivate more.
...consciously plan activities with teaching strategies conducive to brain stimulation for efficient learning.
...give my students more practice time and be more aware of my students' needs.

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The part of the presentation I liked the best was.....

...the modeling of strategies rather than just discussing them
...interacting and dramatic presentation
...absolutely everything. Fabulous!
...the interactive activities and actual demonstrations of possible activities to try with our students
...the pictures of the brain and neurons
...music activities
...learning the inductive process!!
...the active presentation style
...the entire session. I loved the humor, the strategies, the biology and the strategies. Did I mention the strategies. ☺
...every single minute.
...everything. Every topic was extremely interesting.
...My brain found the past three hours so thrilling that it is presently incapable of discriminating about “best.”
...the respect you have for all people and differences of learning styles
...the presenter! She motivated me in a way that no other person has done.

Other comments...

- The linking of theory to situation to specific activities is phenomenal.
- You have opened up a whole new area of research to me. I think you have changed my life – and the direction of my career.
- I’ve had other courses on brain-compatible teaching, including numerous psych courses (at X univ) and pedagogy courses (major univ). this one day seminar gave me more practical use and understanding – I saw it in context! Great!
- You are the rare researcher who can translate your work meaningfully to an audience trained in another field.
- By far, the most valuable information and best presentation of the week!!!
- I could have listened to this for **another** six hours!
- Dr. Zadina was very youthful and fun to listen to. Rumors were correct about her being fabulous (student teacher).
- Everyone should be forced to register for this presentation.
- I didn’t want to leave to go to the restroom.
- I have not been to a seminar that didn’t use “buzz” words or *same ideas, new name* in a long time. Awesome job.
- I can’t wait to get home and start working on new activities.
- I liked the enthusiasm of the presenter.
- She talks the way good teachers talk ...She talks to us like colleagues, not like we are stupid (student teacher).

- I liked the scientific background to good teaching practices
- I would like to have a whole conference on this!
- Outstanding speaker – enthusiastic and interesting.
- Fabulous – should be a required course for all developmental educators!
- High energy – engaging.
- Fantastic. I’ll be spreading the word on the new things I have learned today.
- Super – and I only came to complete my 18 hours. A+
- I’ll be a better teacher tonight.
- I wish it could have been longer. (It was 9-3.)
- This was our best event yet.
- Interesting, informative, stimulating!
- She is a very engaging presenter-held our attention.
- I believe this is one of the most useful sessions I have ever attended. Excellent presenter. Clear and understandable.
- I learned so much AND I felt reinforced with my own teaching practices.
- It was interesting, but in a good way (student).
- The best presentation I have heard in 45 years.
- I took 20 pages of notes.
- It should be required for faculty.
- Just wanted to tell you that I am still floating three feet off the ground from the Brain Research Seminar and it is Saturday afternoon. I really feel all filled up inside.
- I would pay college tuition for this.
- Great strategies with background knowledge!
- Excellent energy. Thank you.
- An active, inspiring institute that gave me strategies to use and a different view of my students to consider when in the classroom.
- Terrific demonstration through your style of good brain-based teaching/learning.
- Excellent handling of very complex topic leading to practical implications for me as a reading instructor
- This was the best workshop I have attended in 20 years.
- Your mixture of humor, pictures, etc. really made the day seem shorter than it really was.
- I would like a 2 – 3 day workshop.
- Thank you for your presentation style, for your respect for all present, and for being yourself.
- Janet must have been a terrific classroom teacher!
- You are a dynamic public speaker. I learned a lot from you today. Thank you for being a part of making me a better teacher. (student teacher)
- You modeled the strategies you discussed. So key to educational presentations.
- This presentation was incredibly amazing. I not only learned, but I enjoyed learning. You touched my professional and personal life today. Thank you.

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Other comments (continued)...

- I loved Dr. Z's presentation. She was knowledgeable, engaging, funny, and an expert willing to share her knowledge at an understandable level. Bring Dr. Z back!!
- I would like to attend more of your seminars. Come back soon!
- You were lots of fun and learning should be just that!
- Great job keeping everyone involved by showing us instead of just telling us.
- In 13 years this was one of the most useful presentations I've had.
- Hard to believe a two-hour lecture went by so fast.
- Dr Zadina's incredible gift for delivery of information was a joy to experience. I would have enjoyed a longer program (3 hrs) and am very appreciative of the time we had. Our administrators could have used time with Dr. Zadina.
- Oh goodness, make this mandatory and come again for all to hear what you have to say.
- I was left after 3+ hours wanting even more. This is one of the best presentations I've ever seen.
- Anyone who gets to work with you is a lucky duck.
- You inspire me to continue my education.
- I appreciate the fact that this was much more than just a talk. It had a lot of practical and useful concepts.
- Why did it take so long to get such useful info?
- Wonderful! Best I ever had at an inservice (paraprofessional).
- My husband and son have dyslexia. This was a beautiful description of their plight.
- Thank you so much for the most stimulating workshop presentation I've ever had.
- I loved it! (school board member)
- Dr. Zadina, you are brilliant! I have never sat in a presentation for this long without being off task for long periods of time or falling asleep.
- I should come back to school for my masters. She was great!
- This was the best presentation I have attended in 10 years of teaching at (college).
- It was such an extraordinary presentation.
- The fact that she is/was a teacher really contributed to the presentation. I had a preconceived idea that someone in neuroscience would be dull, but not Dr. Z!!
- Your talk would be great for a beginning of the year workshop!
- One of the best I have heard in my man years as a foreign language specialist.
- Bravo! Fabulous! Rad! Cool! Loved it!
- Your work is invaluable to me because you see your research through the eyes of a teacher.
- Thank you for bringing excitement and life to our training.
- This was the best presentation ever! (28 years in the profession).
- I've learned more during this session than any other I've attended.
- It greatly exceeded my expectations.