



# Abstracts

**Focus:** Developing awareness of contemporary themes in teaching and learning

**Materials needed:** Conference abstracts

Use the QR code to find out more and see more cards in the NILE A-Z training activity series!



# Aims

- To develop awareness of contemporary themes in teaching / testing / materials / etc.
- To learn about trainees' areas of interest and preferences



# Abstracts

PART OF THE INTO GROUP

# Procedure

1. Choose a recent conference which is relevant to the focus of the course, and for which the conference programme is publicly available e.g. the EALTA annual conference for a language assessment literacy course.
  2. Cut out and stick around the training room a selection of the session abstracts (approximately 20 abstracts works well). (NB. Concurrent sessions are better than plenaries).
  3. Ask the trainees to walk round the room and...
    - a. Categorise the sessions (either into a set of categories which you have defined, or their own categories (this latter approach can make for a very interesting side discussion—see Activity Q—Questioning Skills)).
    - b. Select four of the sessions which they would attend if they were at the conference.
  4. When they have chosen, give them all the full conference programme, ask them to mark their chosen sessions and to try to persuade a partner to accompany them for one session (by giving up one of the sessions the partner had chosen).
  5. Conduct feedback with group, focusing on which sessions they chose, why, what they hoped to learn in the session, and how they categorised these sessions. You can also focus on whether they successfully convinced their partner to accompany them.
- Tip: For briefer, more focused feedback, add an additional step after 4 in which they have to narrow their choice to a single session.