

LEARNING CONNECT TEACHER TOOL

ALEXA – Automated Learning EXcellence & Achievement - PRIOR KNOWLEDGE TOOLS

Introductory Topic Stoppers “Teacher-Guided” Script

Dear Teacher:

Alexa is currently ready to assist you in administering today’s lesson. Using retention and comprehension strategies will increase student achievement substantially for your current lessons and curriculum. Just preview or download the script and ask the required questions provided. Alexa will respond accordingly. In most cases, Alexa can be used as a stand-alone tool, without the use of any of the other accompanying tools, such as, the LC Instructional packet or PowerPoint. Please enjoy the results.

CLASSROOM HELPER SHEET – The Classroom Helper Sheet provides the lesson objective, tool description, required student materials, any optional materials, and Alexa’s contribution. This sheet can be previewed or downloaded.

TEACHER SCRIPT SHEET – The Alexa Script Sheet begins by providing a notation of the teacher’s contribution to the Alexa’s directives. In most cases, be prepared to share simple lesson-related information for brainstorming and reflection, such as the lesson topic, vocabulary words or general lesson statements.


The script sheet also provides the teacher with a brief Alexa Lesson Introduction, the Alexa Activation Questions or Statements and a copy of Alexa’s Responses. Teacher can download or reference the Activation Questions or Statements, along with the Alexa’s Responses, on an electronic device during instruction. In summary, using this sheet, teacher can capture Alexa’s Activation Questions or Statements for the selected Learning Connect activity. Then, preview Alexa’s Responses. If needed, this tool can be used to clarify any student question asked after an Alexa directive is provided, if needed.

(OPTIONAL) LESSON SAMPLES – In most cases, Alexa provides the guidance to help students create their own handouts for the lesson. However, lesson handout

snapshots (small size) have been provided with the script to be used for clarification and explanation. On the other hand, if a copy of a ready-made handout is desired, please refer back to the original LC instructional tool for a handout suitable for copy.

STUDENT LEADER SHEET – The Student Leader Sheet provides the Alexa Activation Questions for a Student Leader to use in activating Alexa in an individual, partner or small group setting. However, the Alexa Responses are not provided on this sheet. If clarification is needed, Alexa can be asked to repeat her response.

CLASSROOM HELPER SHEET INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS

 **Lesson Objective** – To deeply connect with information during instruction by reflecting, summarizing, paraphrasing, clarifying, predicting and formulating questions to improve comprehension and memory.

Tool Description – Alexa or Instructor will guide students, individually, with a partner, in a small group or as a class, to respond to one or more of the lesson-related reflection questions during the lesson introduction. These questions are effective in accessing prior knowledge for the purpose of establishing strong connections to the new upcoming lesson-related content. (The Instructor will randomly select questions that best align with the lesson content and quickly insert into the lesson.)

Supplemental Instructional Tool and PowerPoint Student Guidance Available for this

Specific Tool: To preview or download the Instructional or PowerPoint supplement tool, please go back to the original download page by inserting **GC108** into the Main Search Bar or use the following link:

<https://learningconnect.org/tool/gc108-prior-knowledge-introductory-topic-stoppers-journal-entry/>

(You must be currently subscribed and logged into the Learning Connect website to access this link.)

Required Student Materials List: paper and pencil per student

(Optional) Student Materials List: Sample Worksheet – Topic Stoppers

(This worksheet can be created on student's own paper while simply proceeding, as directed, through the activity.)

(Optional) Class Materials List: stapler



SMGR – Small Group Resources

- A. **Leadership Role Strips or Draw Cards** - noting role and tasks are available for a quick use. (Index cards, cut in half, create good draw cards.) The small group draw tools can be laminated to ensure multiple use.
- B. **Drawing Container** - (A sheet of paper, folded in half and stapled down on each side creating a pocket effect, can substitute as a container).

Other Possible Small Group Supplies – time keeping device, scissors, flip chart and markers, multiple copies of the Small Group Ground Rules

To access all ten-minute prep small group tools and accessories, please insert **SG001** into the **Classroom Management Search Bar** or use for the following **Small Group Ten Minute-Prep Steps** link. <https://learningconnect.org/tool/smgr1-sg001-small-group-tool-ten-minute-prep-steps/> (You must be currently subscribed and logged into the Learning Connect website to access this link.)

Teacher Note: For initial leadership role training or a longer-term small group activity, please insert **SG002** into the **Classroom Management Search Bar** to access the small group tools with the **Small Group Leadership Role Guides** or use the following link. <https://learningconnect.org/tool/smgr2-sg002-small-group-tool-leadership-prep-and-role-review/> (You must be currently subscribed and logged into the Learning Connect website to access this link.)

Alexa Contribution: Provide **Lesson-Related Instructional Stoppers** during the lesson introduction, upon request.

(An extended version of this tool, including stoppers for use during lecture or reading portion of instruction is in Enlightening – Topic Stoppers section.)

(For Classroom Use Only)

Instructor should use bolded script provided to communicate with Alexa.

Teacher Contribution to Alexa Lesson: Lesson-Related Introductory Instructional Stoppers
(The number of stoppers used is at the discretion of the instructor.)

INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS

Instructor Intro:

Welcome. Today, our lesson is about _____.
Alexa will help us share our current knowledge and questions about today's lesson using TOPIC STOPPERS. So, get prepared at this time.

Addressing Introductory Topic Stoppers

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: What are INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS?

*Alexa: Topic Stoppers are interventions inserted before and during the lesson. Stoppers, such as a **Word** or a **Knowledge Stopper**, may ask you to share a related word or summarize your current knowledge about a topic. A Stopper that shares your knowledge with a partner is referred to as a **Partner Stopper**. Other stoppers, such as an **Object** or a **Belief Stopper** requests a list of characteristics or beliefs that you have about an object or concept. There are even **Question Stoppers** to write down any questions that you still have. I will share more information about each stopper, when requested for use.*

1. Addressing the first Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a WORD STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, as directed, please take a moment. Write down any related words that come to mind about today's topic. A timeline will be established by your instructor. If directed, be prepared to share with a partner, small group or class.

2. Addressing the second Instructional Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share an OBJECT STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, please take a moment and list as many characteristics as you can about the lesson-related object or concept provided. A timeline will be established by your instructor. If directed, be prepared to share with a partner, a small group or class.

3. Addressing the third Instructional Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a BELIEF STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, please take a moment to reflect and write your beliefs about today's topic. Next, share the reasons for your beliefs. A timeline will be established by your instructor. If directed, be prepared to share with a partner, a small group or class.

4. Addressing the fourth Instructional Topic Stopper

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a KNOWLEDGE STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, please take a moment to reflect and write a summary of your current knowledge on today's topic. A timeline will be established by your instructor. Then, if directed, be prepared to share your results with a partner, a small group or class.

5. Addressing the fifth Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a QUESTION STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, please take a moment. Write down any questions that you have about today's topic. A timeline will be established by your instructor. If directed, be prepared to share with a partner, small group or class.

(FOR PARTNERS OR SMALL GROUPS)

6. Addressing the sixth Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a PARTNER STOPPER.

Alexa: I will be glad to do so. At this time, please take a moment. Turn to a partner, as directed. Then, share your current knowledge on today's topic. A timeline will be established by your instructor. If directed, be prepared to share with a small group or class.

(For Illustrative Purposes Only) If student copies are desired, always create copies from the original LC Instructional Tool.

(SHEET OF PAPER FORMAT)

| INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Name | Course | Date | Class |
| Unit/Chapter | Lesson Title/Topic/Concept | Group Name/Number | |
| Assignment Reference - (Book, Article, Page number and/or RL address) | | | |
| <i>Before Instruction.....</i> | | | |
| 1. WORD STOPPER Write down and share words that come to mind related to the topic. | | Words? | |
| 2. OBJECT STOPPER Write down and share as many characteristics as you can on this (identified and unidentified) object related to today's lesson. | | Characteristics? | |
| 3. BELIEF STOPPER Write down and share your beliefs about today's topic and your reasons. | | Beliefs? Why? | |
| 4. KNOWLEDGE STOPPER Take a moment to reflect on the topic by summarizing your current knowledge. | | Summary: | |
| 5. QUESTION STOPPER Write down and share any questions that you have on today's topic. | | Questions? | |
| For Partners or Small Groups | | | |
| 6. PARTNER STOPPER Turn to a partner and share your current knowledge about what you know about today's topic. | | Current Knowledge? | |

(For Individual Student or Group Student Leader Use Only)

Please use the bolded script provided to communicate with Alexa.

Teacher Contribution to Alexa Lesson: Lesson-Related Introductory Instructional Stoppers
(The number of stoppers used is at the discretion of the instructor.)
(Individual users would avoid the last topic stopper requiring a partner.)

**INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS
STUDENT LEADER SHEET**

Intro:

Welcome. Today, the lesson is about _____.
Alexa will help share our current knowledge by asking questions about today's lesson. So, let's capture your current knowledge on the lesson topic using TOPIC STOPPERS.

Addressing Introductory Topic Stoppers

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: What are INTRODUCTORY TOPIC STOPPERS?

1. Addressing the first Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a WORD STOPPER.

2. Addressing the second Instructional Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share an OBJECT STOPPER.

3. Addressing the third Instructional Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a BELIEF STOPPER.

4. Addressing the fourth Instructional Topic Stopper

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a KNOWLEDGE STOPPER.

5. Addressing the fifth Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a QUESTION STOPPER.

(FOR PARTNERS OR SMALL GROUPS)

6. Addressing the sixth Introductory Topic Stopper.

Instructor: Alexa – Open Prior Knowledge Tools

Alexa: Welcome to Learning Connect. How can I help?

Instructor: Share a PARTNER STOPPER.

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