

# The Higher Order Thinking Classroom Needed Now

R. Bruce Williams

February 12 & 13, 2011

East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools—Weekend Workshop  
Hosted by International Christian School, Hong Kong



## Workshop Description:

This two-day participatory workshop immerses the participants into the contemporary demand for genuine higher order thinking in the classroom. The participants will explore a five-fold framework for organizing thinking skills: Relevance, Richness, Relatedness, Rigor, and Recursiveness. Day One will then offer participants practice in creating questions to facilitate higher order thinking in students. Day Two will emphasize the role of graphic organizers in encouraging higher order thinking skills and will model the role of the cooperative and collaborative in deepening thinking skills. Participants will then use the experience of the workshop to integrate higher order thinking skills into upcoming units/lessons. The participants will also create a plan for teaching a thinking skill in the classroom and consider the challenge of genuine assessments of higher order thinking skills. The workshop will end with time for individual questions.

## Workshop Presenter:

### R. Bruce Williams

With over forty years of international consulting experience, Bruce is noted for his expert group facilitation and his skills in planning and team building methodologies. He has authored *More Than 50 Ways to Build Team Consensus* and *Twelve Roles of Facilitators for School Change* available through Corwin Press (1-800-818-7243). He is also the coauthor of *Valuing Diversity in the School System* and *Brain Compatible Learning for the Block* again, also available through Corwin Press. The former has just been published in a second edition. Released in 2006 also through Corwin Press is a new book *36 Tools for Building Spirit in Learning Communities*. Also available through Corwin Press are his books *Cooperative Learning: A Standard for High Achievement*, *Multiple Intelligences for Differentiated Learning*, and *Higher Order Thinking Skills: Challenging All Students to Achieve*. His specialty is facilitating participative, interactive group workshops whether these are focused on strategic planning and consensus building or instructional methodologies for the classroom. Recently, his workshops on Brain Compatible Learning, Differentiated Learning, and School Change Facilitation have been popular. In addition, he frequently presents in the areas of cooperative learning, higher order thinking skills, and authentic assessment.



Bruce brings exceptional skills at dealing with diverse populations aided by his seven years of experience in Japan and Korea teaching English as a second language. His thirty-nine years of experience in adult training have enabled him to be an invaluable resource in facilitating organizational change.

In addition to conference workshops in 2002 in Australia and New Zealand, he has been invited four times in recent years to present workshops in Singapore. In April of 2004, Bruce was the keynote speaker for 400 principals and teachers in Beijing, People's Republic of China. In the summer of 2007 and the fall of 2008, Bruce was the lead trainer for a week-long workshop on community mobilization tools for public health workers in the Laikipia District of Kenya. In March of 2008, Bruce co-led a workshop on community mobilization in Zambia. In 2009, Bruce led leading and managing skills training for health professionals in Pakistan.

## Workshop Schedule:

<b>Schedule—Saturday</b>	
7:30-8:00	Workshop payment, Breakfast—cafeteria 2/F
8:00-9:40	<b>Opening, Raising the Issue, Thinking Skills Intro, Conceptual Overview, The Three Key Principles</b>
9:40-10:00	Tea Break—5/F
10:00-11:40	<b>Looking at the 5 R's</b>
11:40-12:40	Lunch—cafeteria
12:40-2:10	<b>The Role of Questions</b>
2:10 – 2:30	Tea Break—5/F
2:30-4:00	<b>Creating Thought-Filled Questions for a Unit/Lesson, Questions, Answers, Processing</b>

<b>Schedule—Sunday</b>	
7:30-8:00	Breakfast—cafeteria 2/F
8:00-9:40	<b>Opening, A Look at Graphic Organizers</b>
9:40-10:00	Tea Break—5/F
10:00-11:40	<b>Building Thinking Skills into Units/Lessons Using the Three Key Principles</b>
11:40-12:40	Lunch—cafeteria
12:40-1:50	<b>Teaching A Thinking Skill Directly</b>
1:50 – 2:00	Tea Break—5/F
2:00-3:00	<b>Assessing Thinking Skills, Questions, Answers, Processing</b>

**Fee:**

US\$50 or HK \$390 which includes breakfast, lunch, tea-breaks, and any materials. Please make payments in **CASH** on the morning of Saturday, February 12, 2011

**Registration:**

Complete the online registration form at: <http://tinyurl.com/36opkhu>

If you teach in China and are having trouble with the link, please e-mail me at [pd@ics.edu.hk](mailto:pd@ics.edu.hk)

**Please Bring:**

- A few upcoming lessons—your notes or own lesson plan form will be fine.

**Items you may want to bring:**

- Water bottle
- Laptop, plug adaptor if needed
- Recommended book—*Higher Order Thinking Skills: Challenging All Students to Achieve*, by R. Bruce Williams Available through [Amazon](http://Amazon.com)

**University Credit:**

Participants have the opportunity to obtain one semester graduate credit from Buffalo State, State University of New York (SUNY). Information will be e-mailed to registered participants.

**Accommodation:**

Participants are responsible for booking his/her own accommodation. There are many hotels in Hong Kong that offer very good service. Take note that our school is located in the Sha Tin, New Territories area when making your booking.

**Royal Park Hotel** is attached to a large shopping mall and on the main public transport routes for trains and buses. Cost is ~US \$100 for a room. [www.royalpark.com.hk](http://www.royalpark.com.hk)

**Regal Riverside** is closer to the school but requires a taxi or bus ride to get to most locations. Cost is ~\$US 85 for a room. [www.regalriverside.com](http://www.regalriverside.com)

Hotel registration form with the conference rate for **Royal Park Hotel** will be e-mailed to registered participants.

**School Address:**

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**Contact:**

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