

WORKSHEET – DIDACTIC TRIANGLE

The Didactic Triangle

For this exercise, focus on the education system in which you were educated. Please focus on the whole of your educational experience from primary through to secondary schooling. Draw a copy of the triangle on a piece of paper

Firstly list the major areas of **CONTENT** at the top point.

- For example, subjects did you study at school? Include any choices you could make. Were there any issues in school that might have been dealt with through school parliaments and/or discipline panels? What about homework? How old were you when homework began, and how long did it take? Did your school cover the National Curriculum? Were you put into groups covering different things according to difficulty level (differentiated)? Give some examples of both the knowledge and the facts you gained while you were at school. Attitudes are qualities like perseverance, positivity and enthusiasm. How were these attitudes taught in your school? Did you enjoy school or was it something you did not enjoy or look forward to? Try to be honest with yourself and describe how you felt.

Secondly, list the key **TRANSMITTERS** by the left point.

- Consider the role of your teacher. Did they always transmit knowledge to the pupils? How many times did *pupils* present knowledge to the rest of the class? Did you do any presentations or share your work with the rest of the group? How did the teachers know what to teach? What other professionals worked in your school? Were there teaching assistants or learning mentors? What did they do?

Thirdly, list the main **RECEIVERS** by the right point of the triangle.

- Pupils are mainly the receivers of education but was there any opportunity for the community to come into school to learn? Did your school hold any events to encourage others to come and learn and engage with the school? Did parents have any instruction about, for instance, listening to reading? Would you have liked more say as to what you learned?

When you have done this consider the relationships between the three aspects of the triangle. Would you say your system of education was more or less subject-centred, teacher-centred or pupil-centred?

You might like to consider the same education system using the Ideological Cross.