



Making the Slate With Proofreader's Marks

Objective

To teach students to quickly recognize the meaning of proofreader mark symbols

Materials

- Four or five scribble slate pads (the type that allows you to use a special pen to write information and then lift the paper to erase the writing)
- One pack of index cards
- Alternate material: Colored slips of paper

Time

Teacher's discretion

Procedure

To prepare for this activity, you will need to create a set of index cards with a different proofreader mark written on each card.

After students have learned all of the proofreader's marks, divide your students into four or five teams of equal number. Each team is given one scribble pad (alternately, you can use small slips of colored paper).

Using the prepared index cards, announce the name of a proofreader mark to the teams. For example, say, "TRANSPOSE" out loud to the teams.



One member from each team must then write the symbol for the given word on the scribble slate without receiving help from other teammates.

The team whose member wrote the symbol correctly is awarded one point. The scribble pad must then be passed to another member from each team and this pattern continues.

The team with the most points at the end of the designated timeframe wins. As a prize, the winning team members can receive free assignment passes, or whatever you see fit.

This is a great technique to use to review before giving students a test on proofreader's marks.