



## Authentic Task Approach Characteristics

[http://www.wested.org/online\\_pubs/l-9818.old.pdf](http://www.wested.org/online_pubs/l-9818.old.pdf)

<i>Less emphasis on...</i>	<i>MORE emphasis on...</i>	Course Features
Conference planner/funder needs	Participants' needs	Participants define beforehand what they will work on in the context of their own work
Pre-determined general topic with the hope that everyone "gets what they need"	Content sessions determined by specific participant tasks	Course planners analyze tasks to determine specific concurrent and general sessions
"Sit and get" presentations	Active engagement and learning while doing	Team time to work on tasks and develop strategies for implementation at work site
Looking for answers and solutions <i>from others</i>	Discovering and creating solutions <i>with others</i>	Reflective partners (structured opportunities for participants to provide feedback to one another) Appointment cards (structure to provide participants with opportunities to schedule time with resource experts)
National and state perspectives	Local context, challenges and critical issues	Teams clarify tasks and define criteria for success
Generic understanding of existing knowledge	Application of existing knowledge	Development of Action Plans Providing adequate time to reflect
Concerns about Information (how much, what level, etc)	Concerns about how to use the information and skills learned	Creating a product that focuses on implementation at work site
Shallow treatment of a lot of information	Intensive study of information that focuses on specific tasks	Customized course design Resource-rich environment (materials <i>and</i> subject matter experts)

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