

Bring on the Learning Revolution

Sir Ken Robinson

TED Lectures
Note-taking Activity

Directions: First listen to the lecture and take notes. Then using your notes, you will answer the following questions.

1. Why does the speaker begin the talk with a couple of jokes?
2. What is “the second climate crisis” the speaker refers to in his talk?
3. Where does the speaker place the blame for why a minority of people enjoy what they do?
4. Why does the speaker believe reforming the education system to be inadequate?
5. What is the greatest obstacle slowing innovation?
6. What point is the speaker illustrating with his Abraham Lincoln quote?
7. Why do teenagers not wear watches?
8. Why is college deemed as being so important by Western culture?
9. How are our education systems like fast food?
10. How does the education system need to change to be successful?

Answer Key

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1. To lighten the mood and through humour he gets the attention of his audience.
2. A crisis of human resources – we make very poor use of people’s natural talents.
3. The education system.
4. He feels the education system is broken and it must be re-thought and built anew.
5. The tyranny of common sense or the assumption that things cannot be done another way.
6. To illustrate his point that we are following outdated rules and systems rather than changing with the innovations of our times.
7. Because they are not enthralled by them – they no longer serve the same function as they did for people pre-digital.
8. Because college is seen as the only way to realize our abilities.
9. Fast food depletes our health: our school systems deplete our spirits and energy.
10. The education model needs to change the conditions in which it is presented. It needs to reflect the wants and needs of the students rather than those of the system.