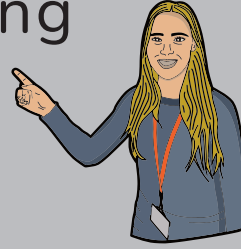


Spacing and Interleaving

SUMMARY

What Every Teacher Needs to Know
by Jade Pearce | illustrated by Zeph Bennett



Part 2

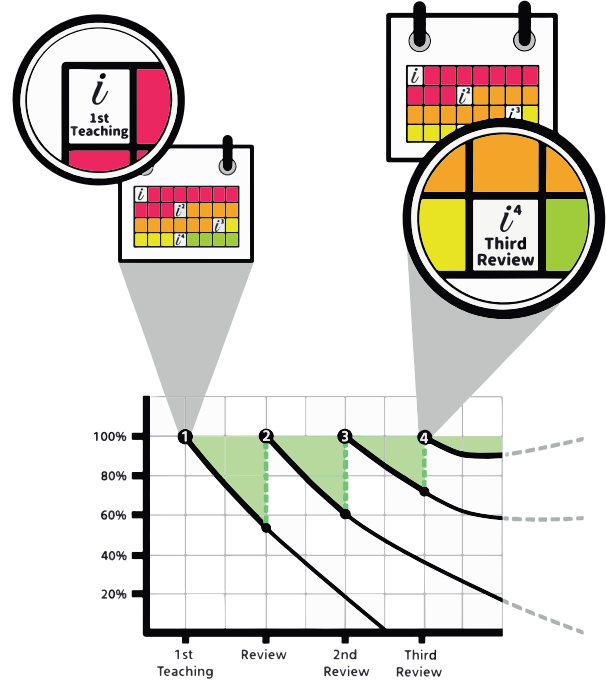
Chapter
25-26

What is spacing?

Spaced practice spreads study out over time and involves teachers re-exposing pupils to previously learned materials after a gap of days, weeks or months. This improves long-term retention.

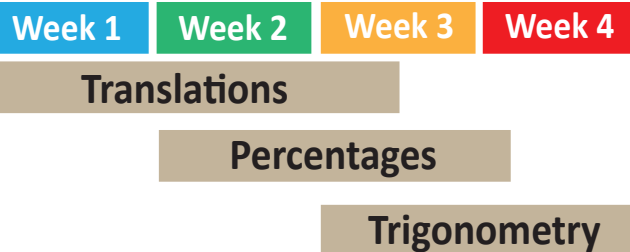
Successful spacing

1. Build on previously learnt concepts or topics in future lessons.
2. Use multiple practice sessions to revisit the same material.
3. Teach a review session after a time delay.
4. Utilise spaced retrieval practice on previously taught content.
5. Set cumulative tests that cover both recent content and that learned previously.
6. Encourage students to use spacing rather than 'cramming' in self-study.
7. Ensure that the gap between revisiting the material is 10-20% of the time period over which the content needs to be remembered.



What is interleaving?

Interleaving is the mixing up of learning material with other material which is slightly different, within one study session.



Methodology

- Worked Examples
- Restudying
- Homework
- Problem Solving
- Practice Questions

Successful interleaving

To implement interleaving most effectively:

1. Use interleaving for material that requires pupils to notice subtle differences between similar content. This includes mixing up the presentation of similar examples, types of problems, worked example solutions and problem-solving exercises, and when restudying similar topics.
2. Mix these up in one study session.
3. Begin instruction using blocked practice, moving to interleaved practice when pupils are familiar with, and have a good understanding of, the material.
4. Set interleaved tasks (by ensuring practice tasks mix up types of problems, questions or content) in lessons and for homework.
5. Teach pupils about the benefits of interleaving