TEKNISKA SKOLAN
FÖRSVARSMAKTEN
ARMED FORCES TECHNICAL SCHOOL



FROM PASSIVE TO PARTICIPATORY: RETHINKING LEARNING FOR ADULTS

Seminar at BILC 2026

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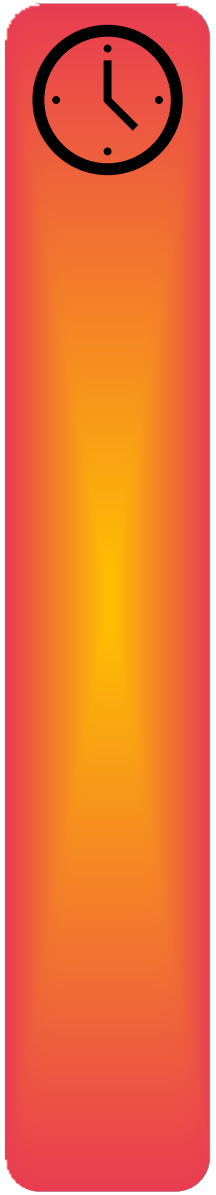
Swedish Armed Forces Technical School

Think back to a meeting, seminar or presentation where you mentally checked out.

1. Think about why that happened.

2. Discuss with the person next to you.



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR THOUGHTS





WHO AM I?

→ English teacher for Military and Technical Purposes (ESP) at the Swedish Armed Forces Technical School in Halmstad, Sweden

→ High school teacher with 20 years of experience



ENGLISH AT THE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

- → Tools and equipment
- → Vehicle, aircraft and sea vessel body parts
- → Materials, damage vocabulary, safety brief
- → Military technology
- → Logistics
- → Orders



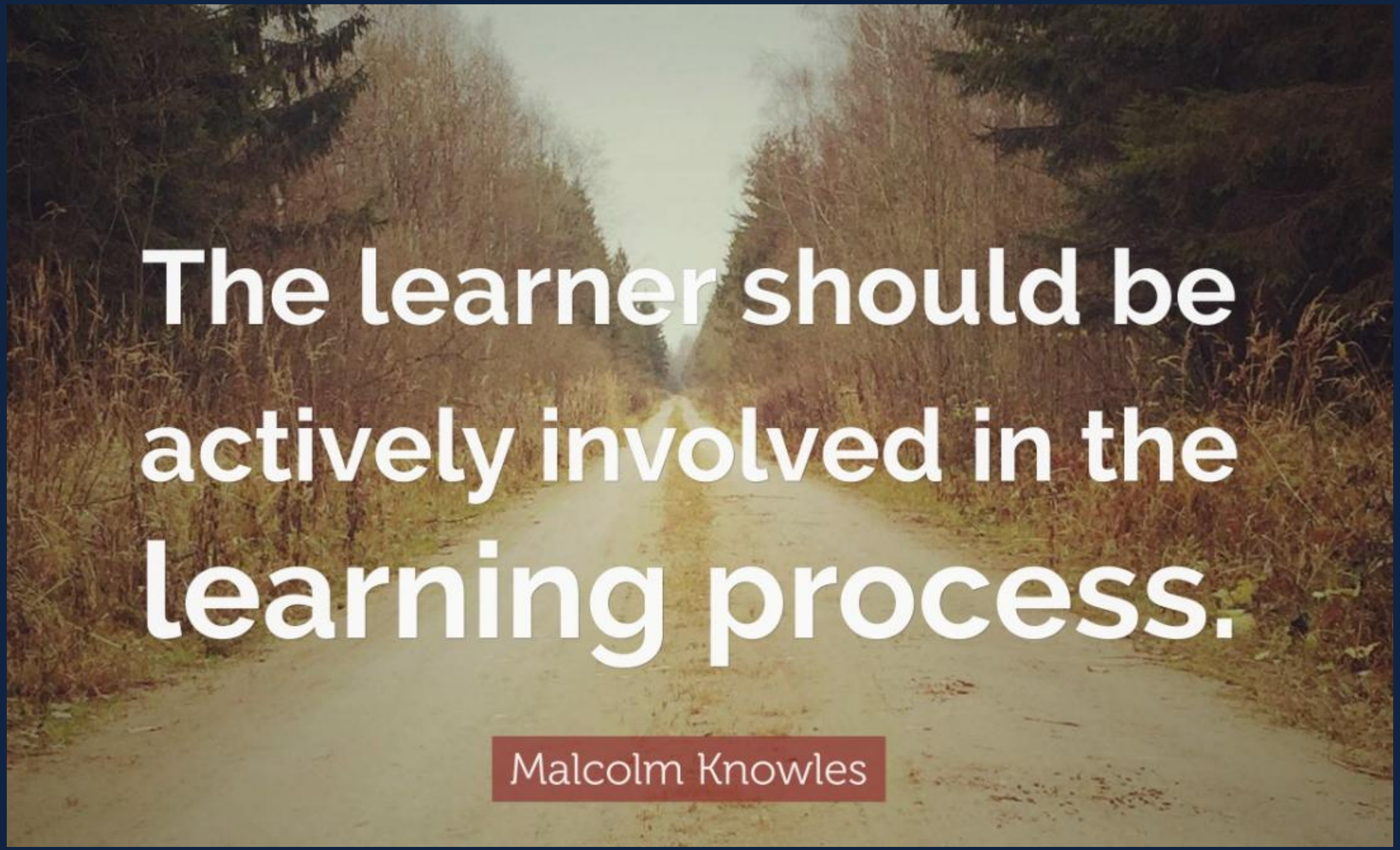


WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

TRADITIONAL TEACHING METHODS

1. Efficiency beats effectiveness
2. We teach the way we are taught
3. Experts often misunderstand how they became experts
4. Active learning is riskier
5. Learners themselves often resist autonomy
6. Systems reward content coverage, not learning




The learner should be actively involved in the learning process.
Malcolm Knowles

LEARNING HAPPENS WHEN...



LEARNING HAPPENS WHEN...



IT IS RELEVANT

LEARNING HAPPENS WHEN...



EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE IS USED

LEARNING HAPPENS WHEN...



THE MILITARY SETTING



In combat, nobody succeeds by remembering slides from a lecture.

- Initiative
- Adaptability
- Decentralized decision-making
- Critical thinking under uncertainty

NOW YOU...


STARKARE TILLSAMMANS
Uppgift:
1. Läs kap 4-6
2. Reflektera
3. Förbered frågor
Försörjningskedjans utmaningar
• Logistiska flöden
• Materielplanering
• Resursoptimering
• Samverkan med civila aktörer
• Framtida behov och utvecklingsriktning
FÖRSVARSMAKTEN
SWEDISH ARMED FORCES


Uppdrag
1. Analysera lägesbilden
2. Identifiera handlingsalternativ
3. Diskutera risker och möjligheter
4. Presentera er rekommendation
Vad skulle ni göra?
TILLSAMMANS UTVECKLAR VI FÖRSVARSFÖRMÅGAN
• Mod
• Ansvar
• Yrkesstolthet
• Kamratskap
• Resultat
Scenario 2 – Handlingsalternativ
Diskutera i grupper:
• Vilka alternativ finns?
• Vilka är för- och nackdelarna?
• Vilka resurser behövs?
• Vad rekommenderar ni?
15:00

Discuss with the person sitting next to you!

YOUR TASK

You need to give a 90 minute class on ”Ethics and Leadership in the International Setting” to 15 officers.

How could this be done with the adult and active learning in mind?

Discuss with the person sitting next to you!

YOUR TASK

Five junior officers are in need of English training before an official visit from the US Army, for which they have been asked to introduce themselves, their units and the work they do there.

How could this be done with the adult and active learning in mind?


THANK YOU FOR LISTENING
(HOPEFULLY...)
NOW, BACK TO THE FIELD
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SWEDISH ARMED FORCES