

**Strategic Autonomy:
A Student-Centred
Approach to Developing
Reading Comprehension
and Critical Thinking Skills**

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DYSALTERATION

[,dis ɔl.tə 'reɪ.jən]

Faced with incontrovertible evidence of Trump's impeachable offenses, Republicans have resorted to attacking witnesses, promoting conspiracy theories, and even brazenly denying actions to which Trump himself has previously confessed. This coordinated campaign of **dysalteration** has left many people confused about the charges against the president.

dysalteration: the willful, deliberate attempt to destabilise the public's sense of reality and meaning, thereby opening the door for a dystopian future led by a reassuring patriarchal autocrat. cf. obfuscation, gaslighting, muddying the waters

(The Scott-Phillips Alternative Dictionary of Political Terminology)

toasticles

As Sally made breakfast, she was mentally cataloging her complaints against her inconsiderate husband, from the dirty socks on the bathroom floor to the vacuum cleaner he gave her for her last birthday. As she opened the tub of butter, she added another item to the list. Carefully removing her husband's toasticles from the butter with a knife, she resolved to give him a piece of her mind when he came home that afternoon.

Toasticles: Bits of toast crumb embedded in butter or margarine after it is returned to the refrigerator, left behind by careless use of a warm knife that has already made a pass along the surface of a piece of toast. (Entered US English as a Sniglet, c. 1984.)

(Urban Dictionary)

mageirocophobia

Ever since I was a child, I have suffered from mageirocophobia. It started when I contracted salmonella after eating a plate of eggs my mother had prepared. For days afterwards, I refused to go anywhere near the kitchen. Even the sound of a frying pan being removed from a cupboard or the thought of standing in front of the stove would be enough to send me into a cold sweat.

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Fear of cooking

Activity Goals

- Build vocabulary
- Practice reading comprehension
- Develop critical reading skills

Reading Break

**“Reading is what
people did before
YouTube.”**

– Toby Turner

to upend (verb)

Dictionary definition: to set or turn something on its end or upside down.

Meaning in context: the expectation that someone should look and behave in accordance with their gender has been strongly challenged or questioned: 'upending gender norms and beauty standards'.

Contextual clues:

- 'after' implies bullying = past
- present perfect 'has turned herself' = change of state
- 'as she goes' = gender norms upended at same time as change

Reading Comprehension

1.) Harnaam Kaur has had polycystic ovaries since she was 16 years old.

A True

B False

C Not given

2.) Kaur was self-conscious about her appearance at school because

A nearby builders whispered about her.

B she was bullied by her peers.

C teachers gave out detentions and suspensions.




CEFR Descriptors: Reading (B2 Level)

- Can obtain information, ideas and opinions from highly specialised sources within his/her field.
- Can use a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including reading for main points; checking for comprehension by using contextual clues.

CEFR Descriptors: Reading (C1 Level)

- Can understand in detail a wide range of lengthy, complex texts likely to be encountered in social, professional and academic life.
- Can use contextual, grammatical and lexical cues to identify finer points of detail including attitudes and implied as well as stated opinions.

Critical Reading

-  How does Kaur view biological sex in relation to gender?
-  Have you ever seen a woman with facial hair? How would you react if you did?
-  Do you think the interview with Kaur challenged the author's own assumptions about gender? Why or why not? Give examples from the text to support your answer.

Autonomy

Procedure



Advantages

- “Choose your own adventure”
- Combining reading and thinking

If you can't explain it simply, you
don't understand it well enough.

- Albert Einstein*

*allegedly

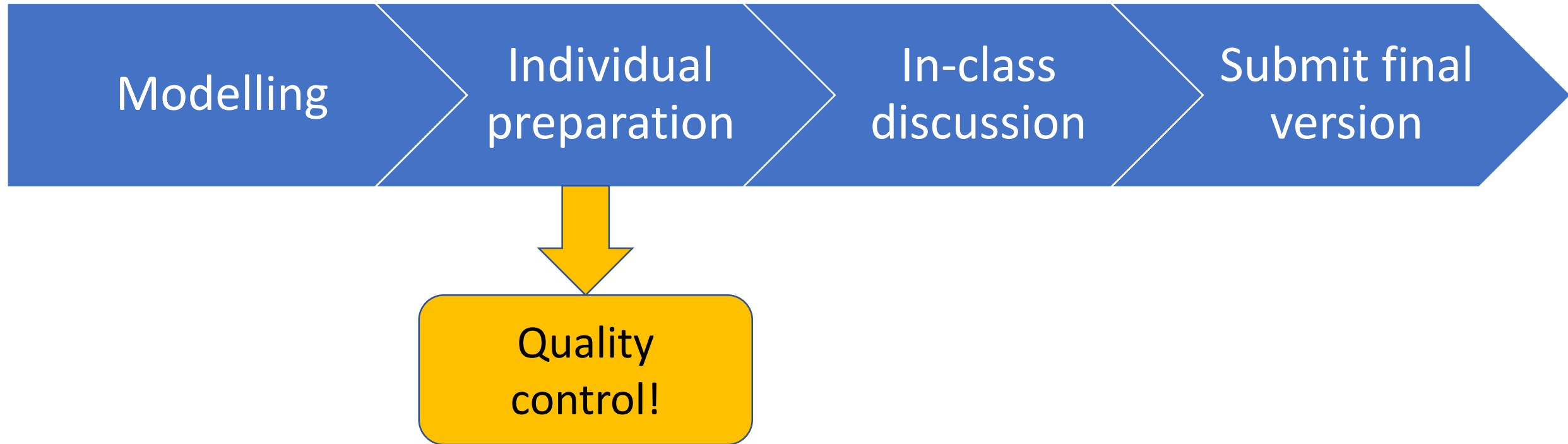
Challenges

- Text selection
- Question quality

Strategic

Autonomy

Challenges



Workload?

**“Knowledge is
power.”**

Sir Francis Bacon

**"Read not to
contradict and
confute; nor to
believe and take for
granted; nor to find
talk and discourse;
but to weigh and
consider."**

Sir Francis Bacon

**Let's fight
dysalteration!**