



SOLO ACTIVITY

Two Designs, One Set of Limits

Name _____

Date _____

Working memory holds very little. Every design decision either respects that or ignores it.

 30 to 40 minutes

 On your own

 Paper and pen

1 Read the two approaches

Approach A

A new process is introduced (30-min explanation). The slides have full paragraphs, technical terms and several steps together. Learners listen until the end, then start a task straight away. No example during explanation, no recap, and no check of prior knowledge.

Approach B

The same process is introduced in short sections. Each one opens with why it matters and carries one example. Learners are asked what they already know before moving on. The trainer pauses between stages, sums up, and runs a short practice before starting the next part.

2 Compare them

	APPROACH A	APPROACH B
Which one holds attention at the start, and why		
Where working memory is more likely to overload		
How prior knowledge is used, or left alone		
What is likely to reach long-term memory		

3 Critique both

Strengths of A

What does covering it in one pass protect?

Limitations of A

How can learners look fine and retain almost nothing?

Strengths of B

Which difficulty does the sectioning remove?

Questions about B

What does it cost, and what does it assume of the trainer?

4 Make a judgement

Exposure to content is not the same as learning. Argue that from the chapter, then recommend two changes to the weaker design that leave the content untouched.

Two people in the same session respond differently because



More ways into Chapter 2

This section is also available as video, audio, infographics, mind map, and more, including an opportunity to do a deep dive into reference material. Start with the format that suits you best.