Using Graphic Organizers for Comprehension

Objective: To teach students to use a graphic organizer for comprehension of an expository text.

Setting and Materials:

Settings: Pull out resource room

Materials:

- Graphic Organizers
- Content Area Text
- Overhead projector and transparency of graphic organizer to be filled out as a class

Content Taught:

Students are taught relationships and specific vocabulary and concepts in content area using the graphic organizer.

Teaching Procedures

(This lesson may take place over several class periods**)**

1. Pre-read the assignment that will be given to students and identify the main ideas.
2. Create the filled in graphic organizer with the major concepts and headings labeled
3. Print out blank graphic organizers for student use
4. Guide students in oral reading in a group setting to read the title of the chapter, introduction, headings and subheadings contained in the chapter, and chapter questions at the end
5. Students read target passages identified by the teacher
6. Teacher guides class discussion on relationships of concepts within the graphic organizer and helps students fill in the empty cells in the graphic organizer
7. Teacher reviews completed graphic organizer and relationships with students after it's been filled out
8. Students are taught summary writing using the following steps:
    i. List the key points from the graphic organizer
    ii. Combine the points that go together

iii. Number the points so they're in a logical order
iv. Write the numbered points into a paragraph

Evaluation

Students are evaluated based on their comprehension of the assigned text using:

- Content area teacher created tests
- Written measures for summaries:
  - Number of words written
  - Rational Knowledge Statements (student's ability to state relationships learned from the text)

Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.2
Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2
Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Modifications:

Graphic organizers with cells already filled in or matching cards with pre-written statements on them

Lesson Plan Based on:

DiCecco, V., & Gleason, M. (2002). Using graphic organizers to attain relational knowledge from expository text. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 35, 306-320.

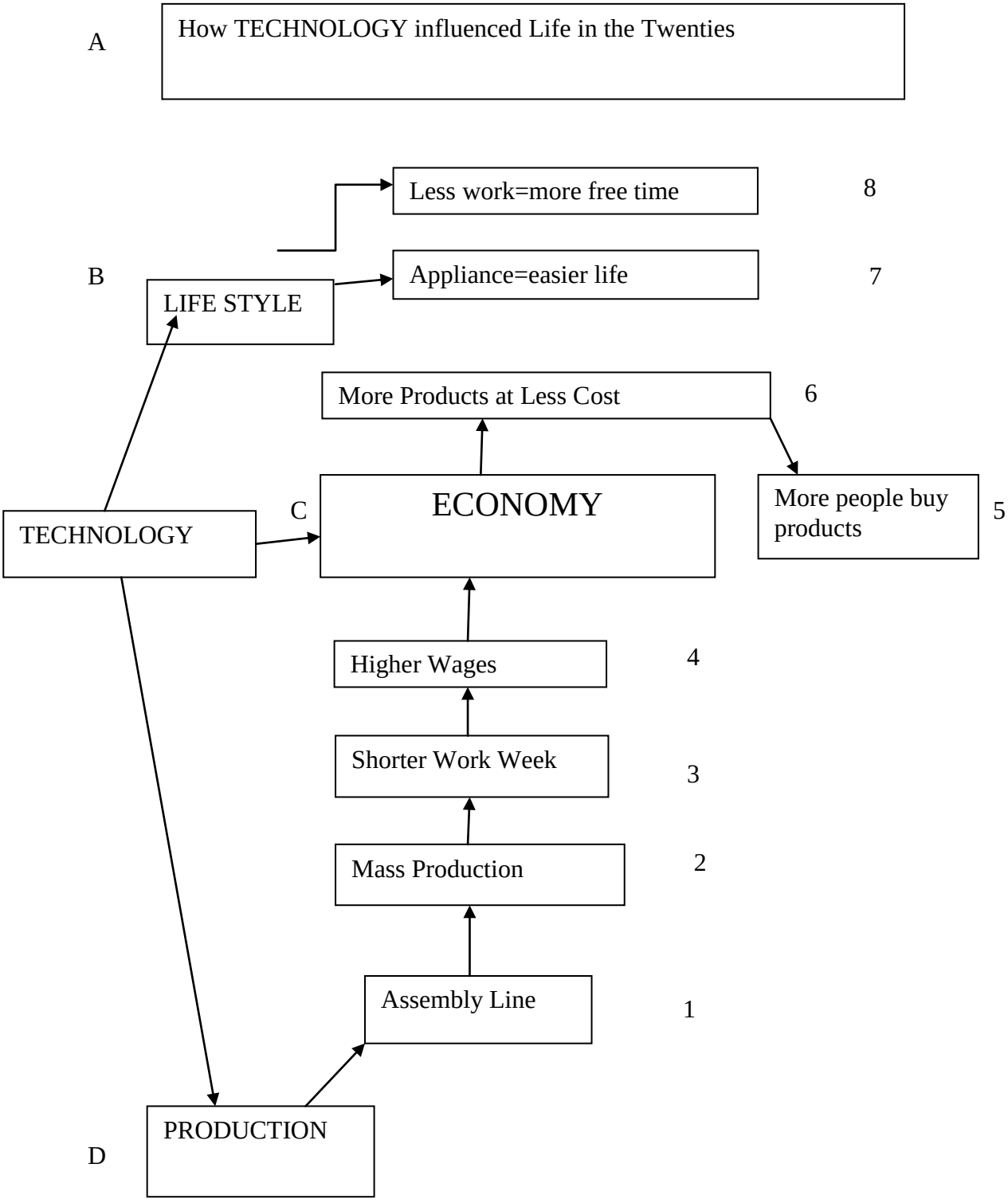

Figure from:
DiCecco, V., & Gleason, M. (2002). Using graphic organizers to attain relational knowledge from expository text. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 35, 306-320.

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