



HANDOUT 1.1.1 – Your Turn

Teacher Learning Communities: Myths and Misconceptions

Directions: Use this handout to discuss common (mis)understandings about TLCs. When finished, share your results with the whole group and/or in small groups.

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) recently published a policy brief on Teacher Learning Communities (TLCs), also referred to as Professional Learning Communities.

Anticipation Guide

Below are four myths that represent misconceptions about TLCs. First, discuss the myth, and then write a brief statement about the reality, based on your own experiences. After reading and discussing the complete list, compare your experiences with those in the article.

Myth	Personal Response	NCTE Response
Myth 1 Any gathering or meeting of teachers is a learning community that improves teacher practice and student learning.		
Myth 2 The primary purpose of teacher learning communities is for experienced teachers to mentor novices.		
Myth 3 In a teacher learning community everyone agrees about each issue.		
Myth 4 Teacher learning communities are always restricted to a single school.		

(National Council of Teachers of English, 2010)