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Synthesis in Accompaniment

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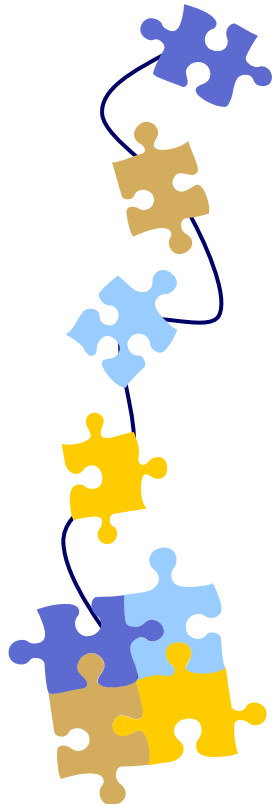
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What is synthesis –

in an accompaniment context?

- Synthesis is a method that assists individuals to organize what they have learned by making links between new learning and existing understanding and competency

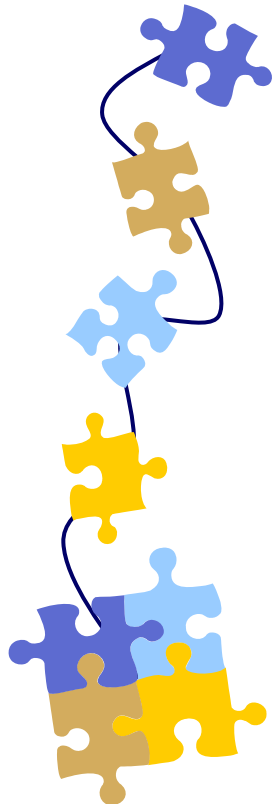


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The result of a synthesis depends on the context in which it is carried out. It can:

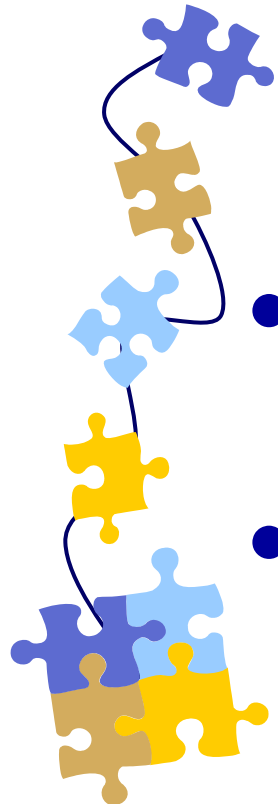
- Provoke new questions
- Draw out or draw attention to new learning
- Bring individuals to a common point



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The focus of a synthesis depends on the reason it is being used – your intention

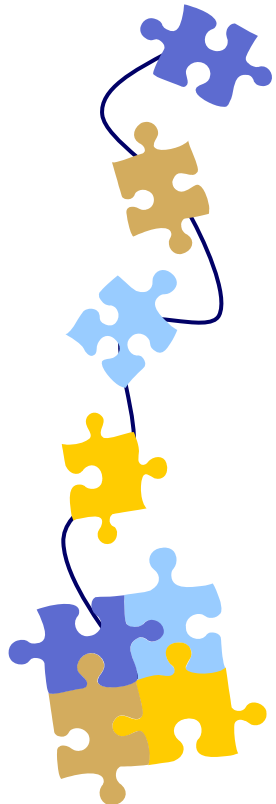


- It can focus on specific content that participants are exploring
- It can focus on the process through which participants work with the content

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A Synthesis can be

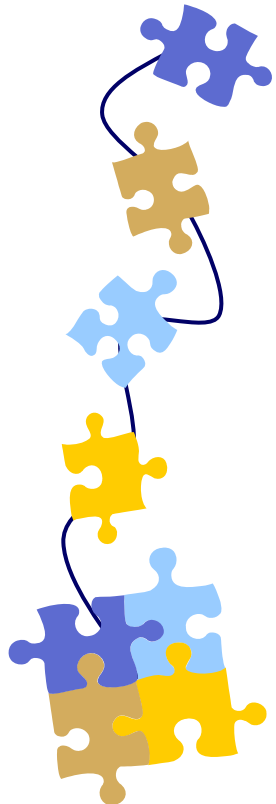


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- Highly prepared and can be carried out as a “presentation”, or
- It can be carried out in action – which appears to be more spontaneous

A Synthesis in Action



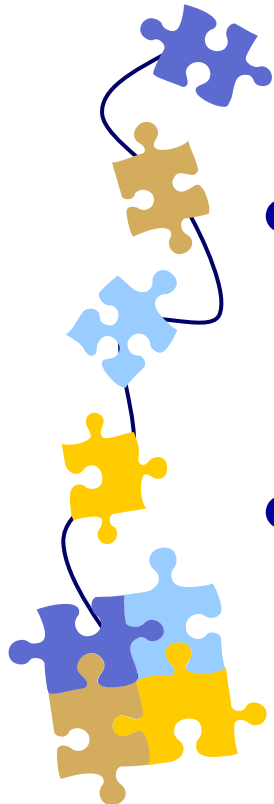
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- Two main situations can lead to syntheses done in action:
 - Brainstorming sessions
 - Team work on specific themes

NOTE: a synthesis in action is not improvised – it may look spontaneous, but it depends on planning and awareness connected to intentions of the learning situation

A Synthesis in Action: Brainstorming



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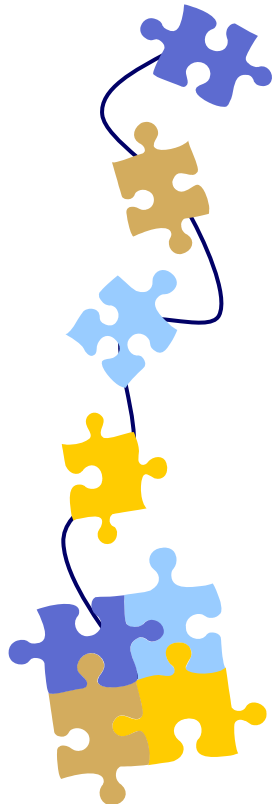
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- A brainstorming session is carried out through which words or phrases are shared – all contributions are accepted
- The words or phrases are then organized, categorized and certain ideas emerge as priorities

A Synthesis in Action :

Team work on specific themes

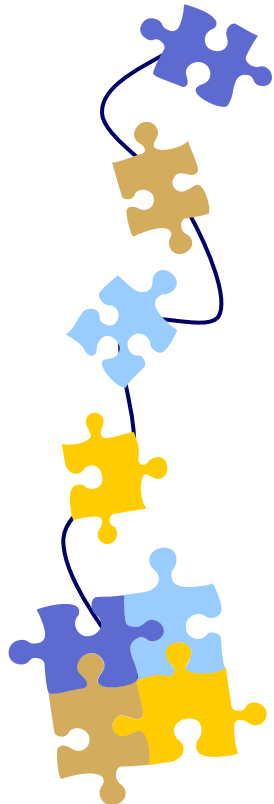
- After a discussion has taken place, it may be useful to carry out a synthesis of the statements that are made
- In doing so, links can be made between the different ideas that have emerged and the intentions held before the discussion took place



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Ways to organize information for a Synthesis – the Forms

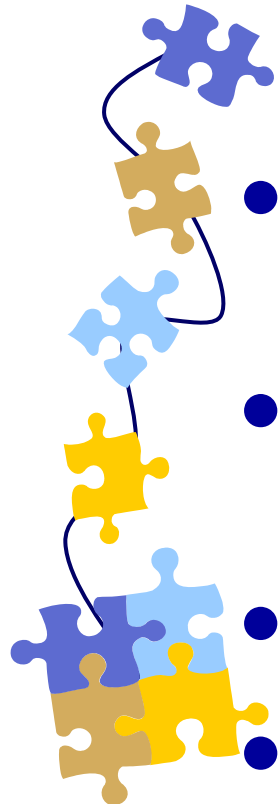


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- A schema or design that shows the links and explains their significance
- A table in which there are several columns with headings
- A definition built from key words and phrases
- A list or set of categories
- A framework

Types of categories

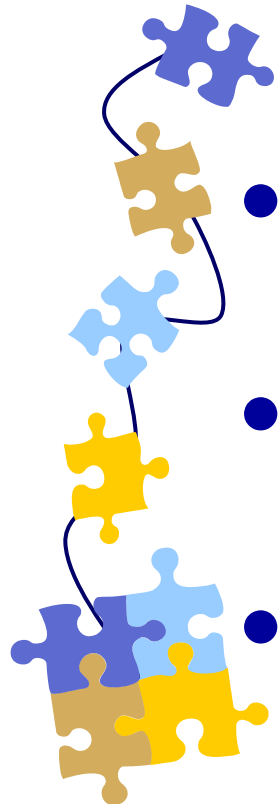


- Manifestations, causes, consequences, actions
- Strengths, weaknesses, similarities and differences, positive and negative aspects
- What, why, how
- Attitudes and effects
- Knowledge, abilities and attitudes

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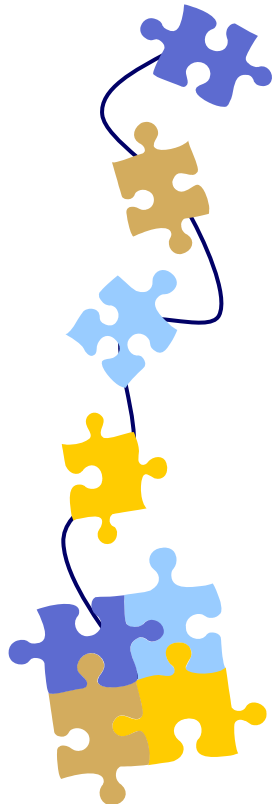
Dimensions of the Process



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- The synthesis is linked to specific learning intentions
- There has to be a choice of categories that is connected to the learning intentions
- The categories have to lead to meaningful organization of ideas
- Identifying non-essential elements and paring down must take place

Methods to Develop the Ability to Carry out Syntheses

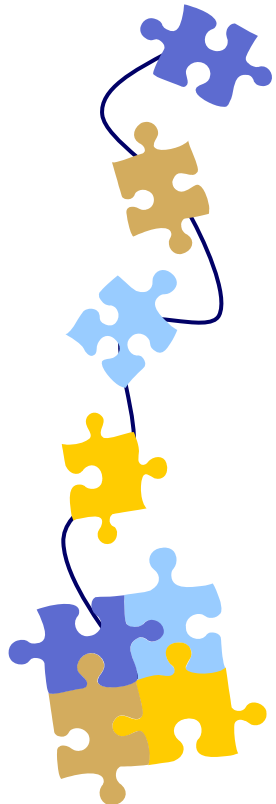


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- Note taking while people are engaged in a task
- Active listening, with a focus on drawing out the essential
- Looking for the structure (that might be pertinent to another situation)
- During the planning process, increasing your knowledge and understanding for making links
- (When engaged as a participant) practice organizing and categorizing ideas – prepare a synthesis for yourself – compare it with others if possible

Is it only the accompanist who carries out a synthesis? No...



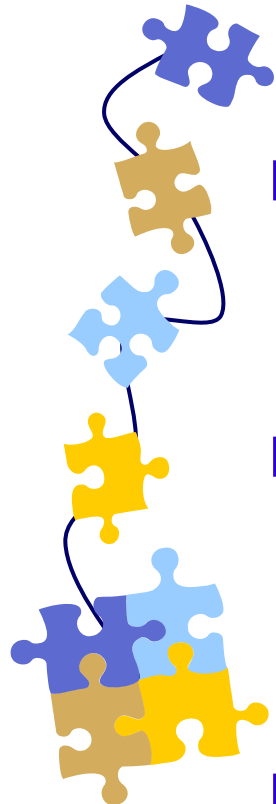
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In accompaniment, participants are sometimes called upon to carry out a synthesis. As a result of doing a synthesis, individuals are able to:

- Compare their understanding with others' understanding or with the accompanist
- Become more open to other's perspectives
- Adjust their understanding
- Deepen their own reading of the situation

Bibliographie



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