

2020 RIPS-SIS Teach-In Kit Submission

Submitted by:

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Classifying Headnotes:

Learning Outcomes:

- Indexing is subjective. Use more than one topic/key number, as a single point of law may be indexed in multiple places
- The Headnotes and the Key Number System are related but are not the same
- Headnotes and Key Numbers are useful because they take specifics and turn them into legal concepts.

Room Setup: Write topic and key numbers on various oversized posters throughout the room

1. Give each student a list of numbered headnotes (they don't all have to be from the same case)
2. Give each student a sheet of stickers with numbers corresponding to the numbered headnotes
3. Students move about the room categorizing the headnotes under the most specific topic and key number and place the corresponding headnote sticker under the corresponding key number.
4. Encourage students to NOT merely follow the lead of their classmates, as there may be more than one correct answer.

The example attached is for a version of this exercise that I call "Bad Thanksgiving." I have included (1) the headnotes that I gave the students (2) the answer key which shows where Westlaw editors classified the headnotes, (3) Templates for the 6 posters I had around the room, (4) a photo of one of the completed posters.