

# **LinksLearning Web Pages**

Prepared for  
Multi-state LINKS Project  
Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction

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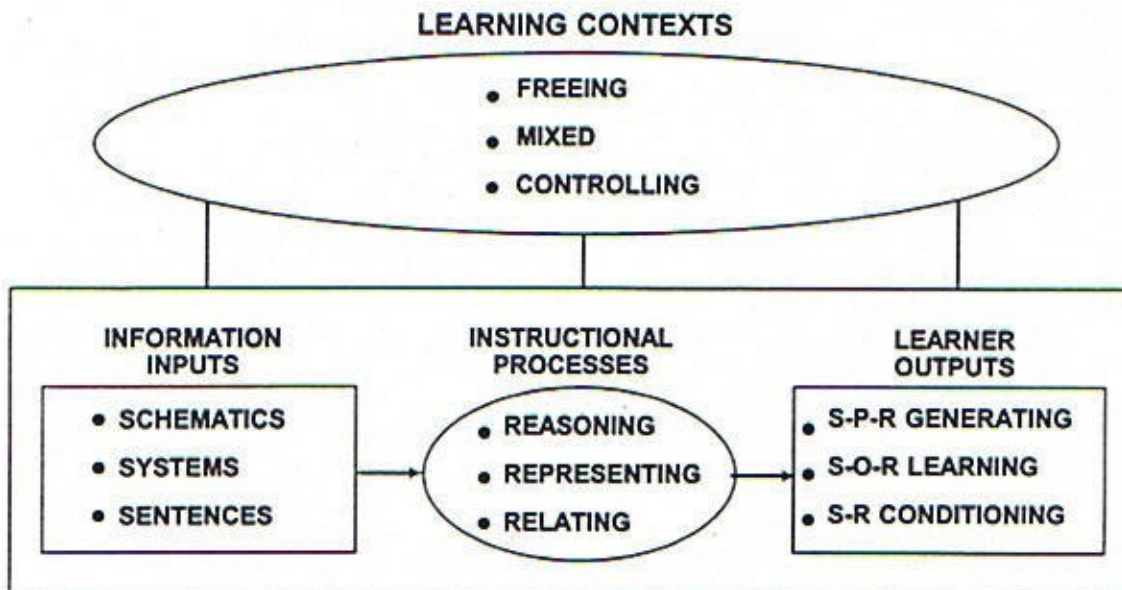
## POSSIBILITIES LEARNING CONTEXT

Learning contexts influence school operations.

Learning contexts include:

- Controlling contexts,
- Mixed contexts, or
- Freeing contexts.

Learning contexts facilitate or retard instructional processes and learner outputs.



## Possibilities Learning Context

When we think of the CONTEXT or conditions of school, we can think of the terms: control, mixed, and free.

- A context of *control* is defined as teacher-directed activities.
- A context of *freedom* is really about learner-directed activities.
- We all realize that true control or total freedom is an imagined state. All of the contexts of our lives are a *mixed* model of control and freedom.

To teach with intentionality, we must realize to which side of the freedom/control spectrum we are leaning towards. Ultimately, if we believe in the inalienable right of freedom for all people, we will want to create our learning contexts to foster learner-directed free inquiry with teachers as coaches rather than as direct deliverers of information.

When we create a learning context, we must do so mindful of its impact upon the impressionable minds and inquisitive spirits of our learners. Sure, society has asked teachers to teach our learners specific knowledge and skills, however, never at the cost of contributing to extinguishing natural curiosity.