Concepts addressed in this course: *Types of communication and interactions that can stimulate discussion in different ways for particular purposes: Encouraging convergent & divergent thinking*

**Students should refer to:**

**Specifically, students should review:**

I. **Convergent Thinking**
   A. Definition
      1. Using facts to find the correct answer
      2. Problem solving to produce the “right” answer
      3. Left-brain thinking
   B. Strategies to Encourage
      1. Traditional schooling
      2. Standardized tests
      3. Rote, memorization, flashcards, etc
   C. Used widely later in education – may not be as appropriate with young children

II. **Divergent Thinking**
   A. Definition
      1. Using concept to develop new ideas
      2. Skill used in broadly creative elaboration of ideas prompted by a stimulus, and is more suited to artistic pursuits and study in the humanities
      3. Right-brain thinking
   B. Strategies to Encourage
      1. Inquiry-based learning
      2. Creative thinking
      3. Invention thinking
      4. Representation of ideas in many ways
      5. Using documentation in order to revisit
   C. More Appropriate Thinking Strategies for Younger Children

Helpful websites include:
Learning and teaching site: [http://www.learningandteaching.info/learning/converge.htm](http://www.learningandteaching.info/learning/converge.htm)