Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

Possible Student Characteristics:

- Inability to keep focus on tasks over a long period of time.
- Tendency to get bored, particularly during lectures.
- Difficulty with change.
- Variability in performance. Students will have good days and bad days.
- Impulsivity, making inappropriate comments.
- Social problems.
- Fidgetiness, squirming in seat.
- Problems with time management and organization.

Teaching Tips:

- Keep instructions as brief and uncomplicated as possible.
- Clearly define course requirements, the dates of exams, and when assignments are due; provide advance notice of any changes.
- Provide handouts, visual aids, and hands-on activities in class.
- Use more than one way to demonstrate or explain information.
- Break information into small steps when teaching many new tasks in one lesson (state objectives, review previous lesson, summarize periodically).
- Allow time for clarification of directions and essential information.
- Provide study guides or review sheets for exams.
- Provide alternate ways for the student to do tasks, such as dictations or oral presentations.
- Provide assistance with proof reading written work.
- Stress organization and ideas rather than mechanics when grading in-class writing assignments.
- When in doubt about how to assist the student, ask him or her.

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