

Using Abbreviations or Symbols

Suggested Year Levels: Middle School – High School

When to use: Every lesson

Background: When taking notes we often tell students to make up abbreviations or symbols. But we need to teach and model this behaviour as well.

Materials:

Activities / Procedures

- **Discussion:** Spend some time discussing why it is good to use abbreviations and symbols in notes. Reinforce that they are already good at this activity (texting). Explain that this strategy is appropriate for notes, not assessments
- **Model Behaviour:** When writing notes on board, use some abbreviations, and discuss why you made the choice
- **Glossary:** As a class you could come up with a glossary or common abbreviations and symbols. This could be written as a Class Handbook or poster. Add to this often.