Learner Autonomy - Statements

What is learner autonomy?

Look at the following 10 statements adapted from Sinclair (2000) about accepted areas of learner autonomy. Work with a partner and fill in the gaps, then check your answers.

Do you agree with all of these?

Which are the most important do you think?

1. Autonomy involves a w__ __ __ __ __ __ness on the part of the learner to take responsibility for their own learning.

2. The capacity and w__ __ __ __ __ __ness of learners to take such responsibility is not necessarily innate.

3. Complete autonomy is an i__ __ __ __ __ __tic goal.

4. There are d__ __ __ __ __ __s of autonomy.

5. The degrees of autonomy are unstable and variable.

6. Autonomy is not simply a matter of placing learners in situations where they have to be ind__ __ __ __ __ __nt.

7. Developing autonomy requires conscious awareness of the learning process – i.e. conscious reflection and decision-making.

8. Promoting autonomy is not simply a matter of teaching strategies.

9. Autonomy can take place both inside and ou__ __ __ __ __ __ the classroom.

10. Autonomy is interpreted differently by different cu__ __ __ __ __ __.

The other three statements were:

Autonomy is a construct of capacity.

Autonomy has a social as well as an individual dimension.

The promotion of autonomy has a political as well as psychological dimension.