

Field Notes from Observations

Participant- “Amber”

Observation	Perceptions
Amber arrives to class 5 minutes before it starts, chooses seat in front row, next to wall	Wants to be away from focus of the room
Amber sets a notebook and sketchbook on desk, begins drawing with a pencil	Drawing instead of interacting with other students
Another female walks over to seat next to Amber, speaks to Amber, she briefly looks up from her drawing, then resumes drawing	Seemed to be more interested in drawing than interacting
When the other student sits down, Amber scoots her chair nearer to wall, draws	Pulls away from other student
Professor walks in room, starts class almost immediately	
Amber continues to draw, answers “here” when professor calls her name when checking attendance	Although she appears distant, is aware of what is going on
Amber continues to draw, looking down	
Amber looks up at professor for about 3 seconds, then continues drawing	Looks interested almost like she is taking notes
Amber puts down pencil and looks at the tattoo on her arm for about 25 seconds	Looks interested in tattoo, appears clam
Amber looks down, picks up pencil, continues drawing	
Glances at professor, then returns to sketching	Looking interested
Professor begins to call on students asking individual questions, Amber snaps her head up and moves her sketch pad to right, she looks at professor	Appears to prepare herself for participation
Professor asks Amber a question, she answers with an answer that is about a sentence long	Although she appears not to paying attention to class, has a valuable answer, contributes to class
Professor nods her head	Approval
Amber smiles slightly, picks up her sketch pad and pencil, leans over, begins to sketch	Seems happy, but embarrassed
Professor dismisses class for break, Amber remains in her seat, once most of the class had left room, Amber stands up and walks directly outside	Seemed to be avoiding interacting with others
When outside, Amber sits on sidewalk, she smokes two cigarettes, then sits with her head down for a few minutes	Stayed by herself, not interacting with anyone during the break
Amber returns to class, walks to her seat without speaking to anyone	Seems distant

Student sitting next to her returns, says something to Amber, she responds briefly, returns to sketching	Does interact some
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Participant- "Bob"

Observation	Perceptions
Professor comes in, begins to explain the agenda for today's class Bob walks in classroom, sits on aisle seat in the second row, looks at professor	Aisle seat- may be connected with symptoms Does not seem to notice he is late
21 students in classroom, sitting in rows, more chairs empty than occupied Professor tells class about mid-term on Monday After this, she turns on video, says it will last about 90 minutes	
Bob sits in chair, feet bouncing on floor, has his clasped holding up chin, uses thumbs to comb through beard, looking at screen	Feels anxious, beard rubbing calming?
Leans over and whispers to young lady sitting next to him, both smile, assumes previous position	Has connections with others
Picks up coca-cola bottle, unscrews top, takes one sip, screw top back on, return to resting chin on hands, repeats this sequence 6 times	Seems very deliberate, ritualistic
Places both arms on table, one over the other, leans forward as he watched video	
Remains looking at screen, leans back in chair, crosses legs and arms, right foot sticking in aisle, bouncing up and down	Feels anxious
Continues to change positions as he remains looking at screen	Does not stay in same position very long
Bob stands up and walks out of class, is gone for approximately 6 minutes, returns, crosses legs and arms, returns to bouncing foot	Seems anxious, may need to walk around
I decided to take a break and return when video is complete	
Professor begins to discuss video, which was tapes of actual counseling sessions with children	Seems very focused
Professor names one child with wrong name, Bob says the right name	Seemed upset professor got name wrong
Professor apologizes, continues to lecture on video, Bob speaks out three times during discussion	Speech seemed slightly pressured, as if he could not hold it in any longer
Bob sits with legs crossed and foot in aisle,	Anxious?

hitting it against table leg repeatedly	
Bob continues in this position, gets cell phone out of pocket, hold it under table, looking at it	Worried? Bored?
Professor asks class to get in small work groups, Bob stays seated, asks for other group members to come to him	Seemed to really not want to leave seat
Bob sitting in group, continues to shake leg, leans over to look at paper and nods his head	Anxiety
Bob begins rock back and forth in his chair	Soothing?
Bob leans over again and points to something on paper, speaks to group, group looking at him, after three minutes, return to upright position	Looks intense in what he is saying
Bob crosses legs again and shakes right leg and foot	Anxious

Participant- "Connie"

Observation	Perceptions
Connie walks into classroom six minutes before class begins She chooses a seat on the back row, three seats from the aisle	Trying to hide?
She speaks with 4 other students who are sitting around her, places her notebook and book on the table, then sits down	Has connections with others in the class Looks ready to work
Connie opens her purse, takes out her phone, looks at it briefly, puts it back in purse, sits purse on floor	
Professor tells class about mid-term on Monday Connie turns to student next to her and whispers	
Professor turns on a video, which she says will last for 90 minutes	
21 students in classroom, sitting in rows, more chairs empty than occupied Connie pulls out notebook and a packet of typed material	Working on homework/another assignment?
She underlines words throughout the packet, then begins writing in her notebook, occasionally looking back at the packet	Looks serious about what she is doing
A female student sitting in front of Connie turns around, the two begin to whisper back and forth	Appears to have good connection with this student
The other student stands up and leaves the	Again looks serious about her work

room, Connie returns to writing	
Connie begins looking around the room, focusing on a group of five students on the other side of the aisle	
She returns to writing	*Connie was one of the few students who did not check phone or leave room during the video
I decided to take break and return when video is complete	
Professor begins to discuss video	
Connie whispers to student next to her several times	Seems to have good connection with student
Writes something on her notebook and shows it to student next to her, both smile	Again, connecting
Professor asks class to get in small work groups, Connie moves her chair to her group	
The group has a conversation with all members talking, one students appears to be taking notes on what the group members are saying	Connie appears a little frustrated with group
Connie takes a sheet of paper that has typing on both sides, holds it up and points to different places while talking to her group	Seems like she kind of took control of the group
The group members shake their heads as Connie speaks	

Participant- "Diane"

Observation	Perceptions
Diane comes in classroom, another student in room- they do not speak, she arrives 15 minutes before class begins	Early- perhaps to get set, needs to be early? Or maybe traffic was light today
Chooses seat in back row on aisle, door is in back of room	Seems like she needs to be by door, easy way to leave- reduce anxiety
Gets book, notebook and binder from her backpack	Organized!
Diane says hello to several female students as they enter the room, gives one a hug	Seems to enjoy other people
2 female students come over to table where Diane is seated, they all three talk	
1 of the students shows Diane a piece of paper Diane nods and smiles pointing to the paper	
Diane returns to writing in her notebook, bouncing her heel repeatedly on floor	Seems anxious
Other students drift in, the professor arrives, 22 students present, 4 or 5 continue to speak to one another	

Diane looks at professor, continues writing, right foot shaking rapidly	Anxious, would like to know what she is writing- no one else taking notes- to calm herself?
Diane remains focused on professor, she is shaking her pen between two fingers, foot still shaking	Nervous/anxious
As professor talks, Diane picks up her textbook and puts it in front of her, opens the book and begins to flip through pages	
Professor asks the class a question, Diane raises hand, then answers question without being called on, has correct answer	Seems proud
Professor continues to speak, Diane laughs and smiles, looks at professor, left foot shaking back and forth	Nervous, but happy?
Diane speaks out in a response to a comment by professor, continues shaking left foot, other students begin speaking out	She participates a lot to be looking as anxious as she does
Diane looks at female student sitting next to her and whispers something, both students roll eyes	Looks irritated, confused, something
Professor talks, Diane is looking at him, right leg shaking back and forth	Anxious/nervous
Professor asks class to break into small groups, class members looking around and moving chairs	
Diane joins a group of 4 other students, they begin speaking and laughing, Diane shakes her leg back and forth	Looks happy and interactive, but still shaking
Professor clears throat, Diane is facing the back of the room, she jumps a little and then turns her body to face professor, both legs shaking back and forth	Appears startled, shaking both legs really fast
Diane talks with other members and wrote in her notebook, professor tells class to return to seat	Seems relaxed, yet anxious
Diane returns to seat, shakes her right leg	
Professor begins powerpoint, Diane opens textbook, begins highlighting book	Seems to want to catch everything, looks intense
Each time powerpoint changes slides, it makes this swooshing noise, each time this happens Diane raises shoulders and closes eyes, then returns to textbook	Startles her each time the noise occurs, even though it happens with every slide
Diane is shaking both legs rapidly for rest of powerpoint	Seems very anxious