Are You Snookered?

Topic: Geometry

Using a contextualised problem students are asked to discover in how many ways they can evaluate the missing angles.
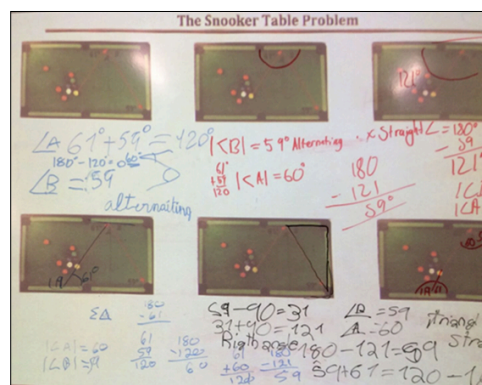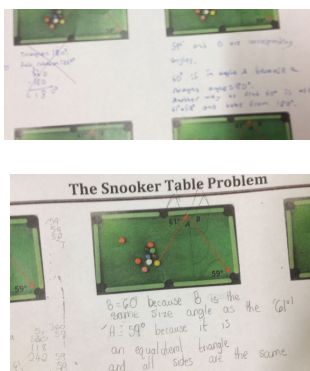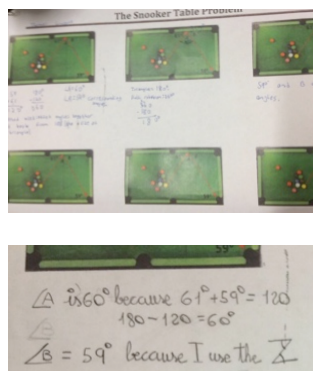
Year Group: 1st Year
Level: Mixed Ability

Posing the Task

Find the size of the angles A and B in as many ways as possible.

Presenting Students' Work

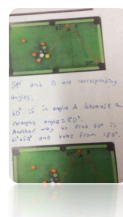
| Prior Knowledge & Posing the Task 10 minutes | → | Students working on the problem 10 minutes | → | Presentation of Solutions & Ceardaíocht 20 minutes | → | Summing up & Reflection 5 minutes |

Reflecting on the Learning

Every student in the class engaged in the task and did something to try and solve the problem. The most popular method used by students was looking for triangles and straight angles and looking for alternate angles. Some students mixed up the names of the angles calling alternate angles corresponding and vice versa. Generally the oral presentation of students was very good with each presenter learning from the last student and using more and more mathematical language and the correct theorems. However students were poor in written literacy with many not writing the name of the theorem they were using beside their solution.

Developed by Olive Butler, Carmel Coleman, Joanna Byrne and Breeda Corcoran MDT, with thanks to the students from St. Wilson's Hospital School, Multyfarnham, Co. Westmeath

Maths Counts 2017

Engaging teachers in Lesson Study

Maynooth University, 3rd-4th March 2017

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