

Empowerments for Student Learning

Exclusively for Adjuncts

Honoring active learning and supportive teaching environments in a changing paradigm of higher education

Expand your knowledge. Broaden your resources. Spark students' inspiration.



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Tips for effective questioning:

1. **Reverse your questions to encourage higher level thinking.** Typically we would ask this type of question: "What are four states on the East Coast?" Instead, try this question: "What do New York, Florida, Maine, and New Jersey have in common?"
2. **Expect 100% participation in class questioning.** When we don't require all students to participate in the discussion, we send a subtle message that there are different rules for different students. Choose students randomly to answer questions, communicate your expectations that everyone will participate, and monitor to be certain that is happening.
3. **Ask questions in a variety of ways.** Change your mode of communication if it's obvious your student doesn't understand. Use a quick visual, reword the question, offer the chance to confer with a partner, or give a hint.
4. **Allow proper wait time.** Give the student time to digest the question.
5. **Think before your use sarcasm.** Not all students understand sarcasm, and it may cause them to shut down and avoid participation.

From: Sladkey, David (2014). *Engaging teaching tools*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

With Best Regards,

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