


EFFECTIVE QUESTIONING

with Professor I. M. Smarter



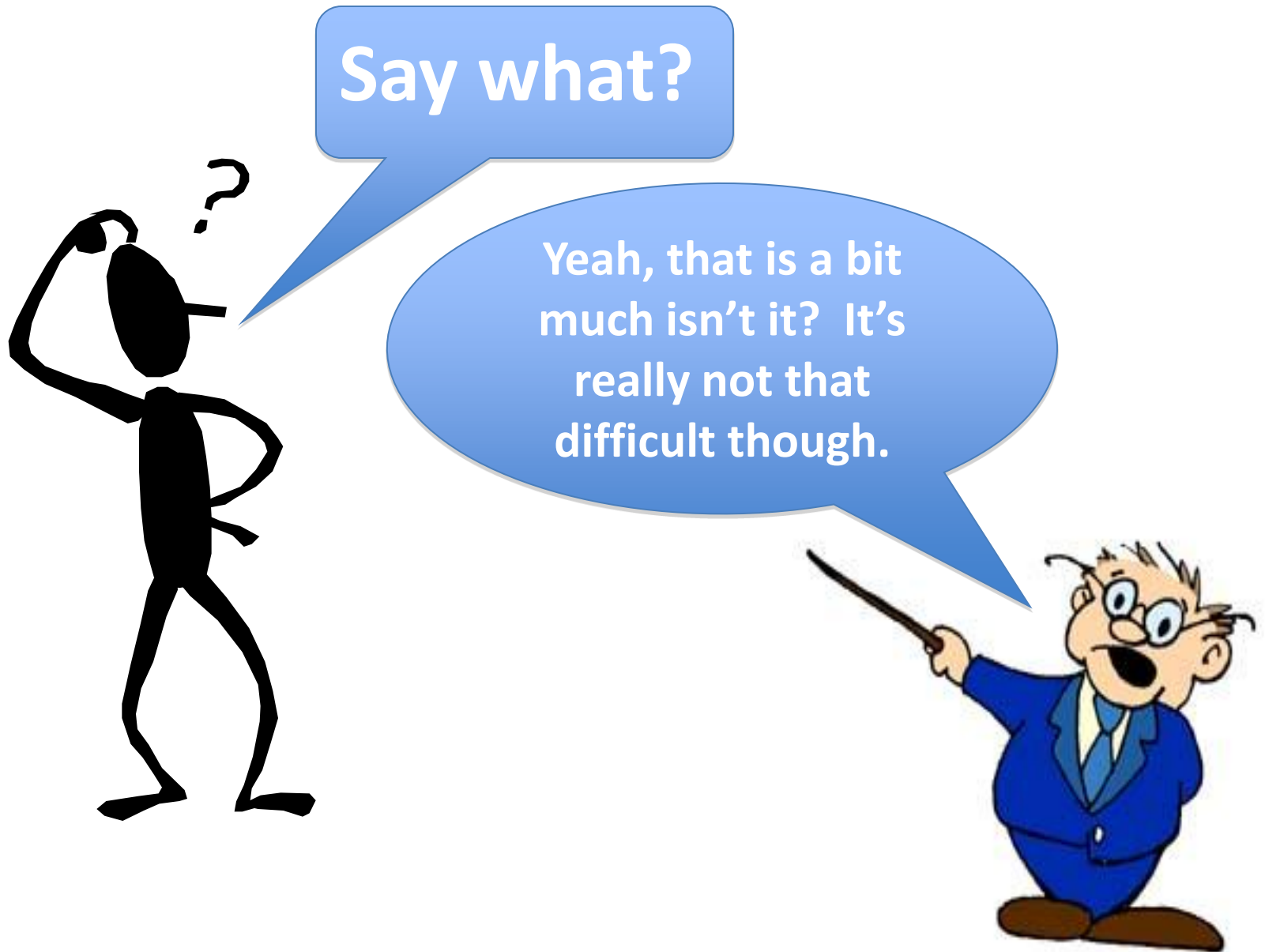
How do I ask effective questions?



Man, that's easy!
Simply . . .

- Listen to the answer . . .
- Sustain the question . . .
- Allow wait time . . .
- Minimize feedback . . .
- Vacate the floor . . .

How do I ask effective questions?



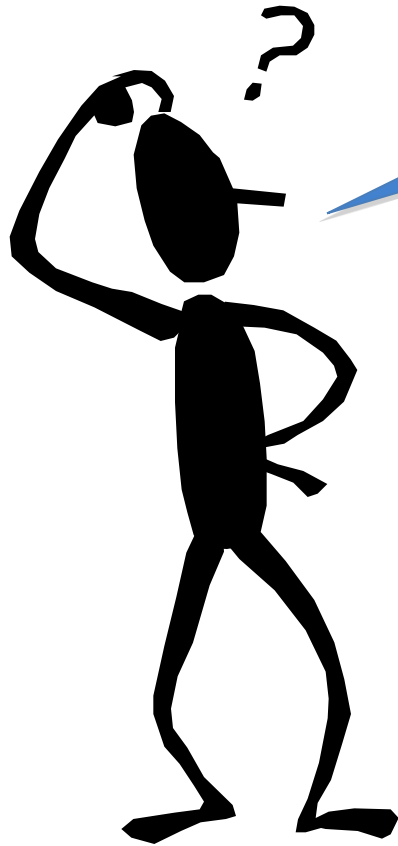
Strategy	Description	Application
Demonstrate listening	Show students you are interested in their response. Initial responses maybe fragmented or disjointed as students grapple to clarify their ideas.	Use non-verbal signals such as facial expressions, a nod, eye contact, sitting forward
Sustain the question	Use probes that encourage the clarification, extension or elaboration of a response. Encourage a range of responses to the one question.	Does anyone ha a different opinion? Could you tell us a little more about that idea? Can you provide some evidence to support your point of view?
Allow wait time	Learn to be comfortable with the silences, so that wait time is extended. Tell students why you are waiting	Use affirmative non-verbal signals (such as a nod) that show engagement and provide encouragement.
Minimize feedback	Affirm student responses, but avoid excessive praise, which may silence alternative responses.	That's an interesting view. Yes, that's one way. Can anyone add to that? Thank you for that idea.
Vacate the floor	Redirect student responses or comments. Breaking the sequence makes students aware that talk doesn't always have to be directed through the teacher. This encourages student dialogue.	Would any one like to respond to that idea? What can you add to that response? How consistent is this response with your thinking?

Here, maybe this chart will help.



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How do I ask effective questions?



Mmmm . . . I Don't know . . .
I'm still not too sure what you
mean.

Well, let's see
if I can clear it
up for you.

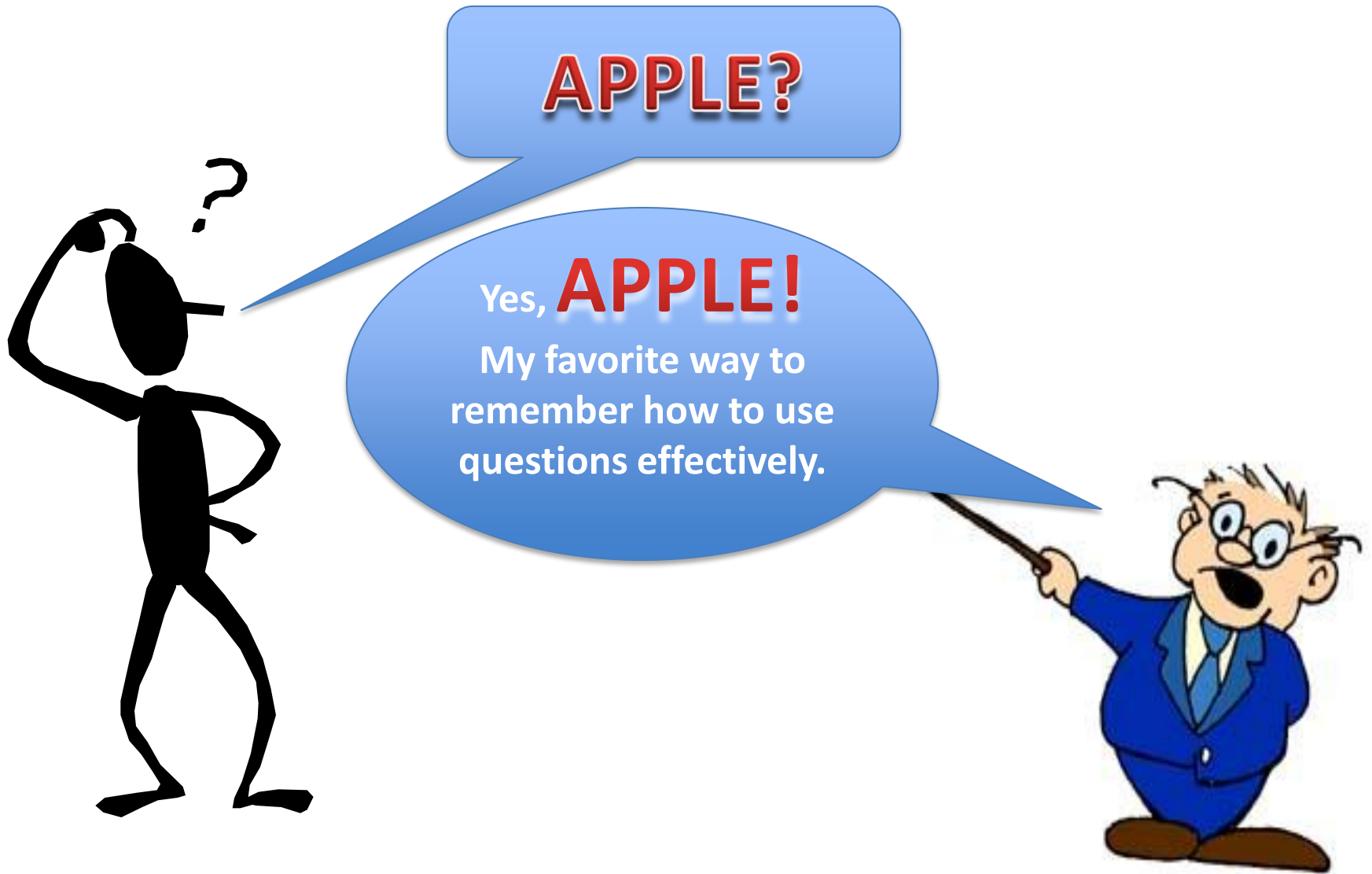


Questioning Techniques

- Encourage students to ask questions at any time.
- Give adequate consideration to all questions--never evade a question.
- Scatter questions over the entire class.
- Use “APPLE”.



How do I ask effective questions?



Questioning Techniques

“APPLE”

- **A**sk the Question: Questions should be prepared in your lesson plan in advance.
- **P**ause: Let the learners think about what you are asking. Give the learners 3-5 seconds in order to respond.



Questioning Techniques

“APPLE”

- **P***ick*: Pick on a learner by name to answer the question. Do not always pick on the first learner that raised his hand. You may also pick on someone that hasn't raised his hand in order to force participation.



Questioning Techniques

“APPLE”

- **L***isten*: Listen to the answer, make eye contact with the learner, provide effect words* when the answer is provided. Mix your effect words, nothing sounds more phony than an instructor that always says "very good" whenever a learner answers a question.



*Praise and/or encouragement words

Questioning Techniques

“APPLE”

- **E***xpound and Explain the learner's answer.* Generate a dialog based on the learner's response. If the learner's response was incorrect, redirect the question back to the other learners. "That's an interesting response, but not the one I was looking for, can anyone else provide a different answer?"



Questioning Techniques

Remember, there are many different types of questions. The response and outcome the teacher wants dictates the type of question the teacher should utilize.



Response Wanted:	Outcome Wanted:	Type Questions Utilized:
Factual Recall	Use this type of question when you want the learner to state specific information	"What is the distance of the Moon from the Earth?" The question is straight and to the point.
Interest-Arousing	This a h	to the Moon from the be away from ne of question it arouses
Canvassing		?" the n't
Thought-Provoking:	In cognit higher learning	to travel to get to ?" This question asks ics, while still obtaining the ual recall question of the distance to the Moon.
Leading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A leading question leads the learners into the answer Instructors need to be careful when using these questions. They are best suited with a follow up question such as... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "The Moon isn't too far for space travel based on current technological trends, is it?" The learner can assume the answer is no based on the wording of the question. "Was the Moon considered to far based on 1966 technological abilities?"

Take a look at this chart. What kind of response do you want? Knowing what you want to achieve through questioning is what makes your questions effective. This is why it is so important to plan for questioning.



Response Wanted:	Outcome Wanted:	Type Questions Utilized:
Factual Recall	Use this type of question when you want the learner to state specific information	"What is the distance of the Moon from the Earth?" The question is straight and to the point.
Interest-Arousing	This a good type of question to get learners back into the topic. Maybe the learners have drifted off and interest in the subject is not want the instructor wants it to be.	"If you were to going to the Moon from the Earth, how long would you be away from home?" The wording of this type of question makes it personal to the learners, it arouses their interest.
Canvassing	A canvassing question is a good way to put a question out to the whole class and encourage discussion amongst the learners.	<p>"How many of you would go to the Moon?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hand raised: "Billy, I didn't think you liked to fly. Why would you want to go to the moon?" • To Hand not raised: "Mary, I see you didn't raise your hand. Why?"
Thought-Provoking:	This type of question generally asks a higher cognitive domain question that encourages higher learning.	"How fast would one need to travel to get to the Moon in two days?" This question asks math and physics, while still obtaining the factual recall question of the distance to the Moon.
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Questioning Techniques

- Pose questions within the ability of the student to whom the question is addressed.
- Ask questions of the inattentive.
- Require students to give complete answers.



Questioning Techniques

- Do not permit frequent group responses.
- Ask open-ended questions
- Avoid asking questions that can be answered by guessing.
- Use the key words of questioning--*how, why, when, where, what, which.*

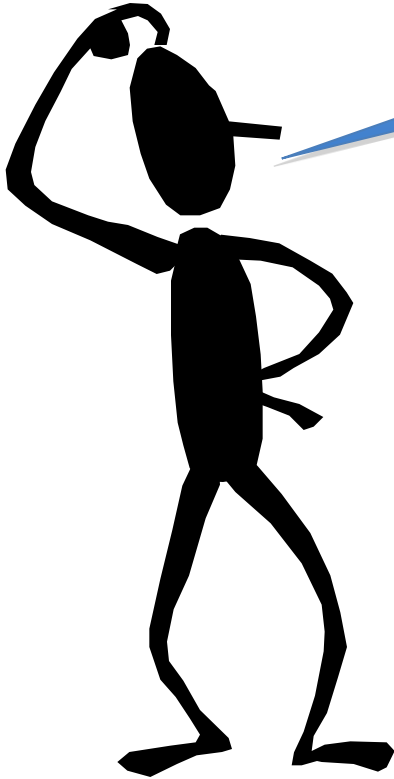


Questioning Techniques


- Have students speak loudly so that all may hear.
- Keep questions on the subject.
- Write questions in your lesson plan.
- Use spontaneous questions. Planning is essential to effective questioning, but by listening carefully to student responses sometimes spontaneous questions can be very effective.



How do I ask effective questions?



Wow, maybe asking effective questions is not as difficult as I was making it.



It's not difficult at all, but there is one more thing you need to keep in mind.

How do I ask effective questions?


- Remember, questioning is not about what the teacher knows, but about what the student knows . . .
- NEVER answer your own questions! If the students know you will give them the answers after a few seconds of silence anyway, what is their incentive to answer?
- Make it about them . . . NOT about you.



How do I ask effective questions?



I believe I can do this!



Sure you can. Just remember to Plan, Know your Purpose, think **APPLE**, and make the Student the Center of your Questioning.

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