

# THE MAGIC IS IN THE INSTRUCTION:

## Delivery of Instruction

ANITA L. ARCHER, PH.D.  
AUTHOR – CONSULTANT – TEACHER  
[ARCHERTEACH@AOL.COM](mailto:ARCHERTEACH@AOL.COM)

Archer, A., & Hughes, C. (2011). *Explicit Instruction: Effective and Efficient Teaching*. NY: Guilford Publications.

[www.explicitinstruction.org](http://www.explicitinstruction.org)

*Active Participation DVD Series: Elementary Level*  
*Active Participation DVD Series: Secondary Level*  
*Vocabulary DVD Series: Elementary*  
Pacific Northwest Publishing

## Big Ideas

### Delivery of Instruction

- Elicit frequent responses
- Carefully monitor responses
- Provide feedback
- Maintain a brisk pace

### Elicit frequent responses

- Opportunities to respond related to:
  - Increased academic achievement
  - Increased on-task behavior
  - Decreased behavioral challenges

## Elicit frequent responses - What?

Opportunities to Respond

**Verbal Responses**

**Written Responses**

**Action Responses**

**All Students Respond.** When possible use response procedures that engage all students.

## Elicit frequent responses - How can students respond in a lesson?

**Verbal Responses**

**Written Responses**

**Action Responses**

## Elicit frequent responses - Brainstorming

- **Think**
  - Have students think and record responses.
  - As students are writing, move around the classroom and write down students' ideas and their names.
- **Pair**
  - Have students share their ideas with their partners.
  - Have them record their partners' best ideas.
  - As students are sharing, continue to circulate around the room, recording ideas and names.
- **Share**
  - Display the ideas and names on the screen. Use this as the vehicle for sharing.

## Elicit frequent responses Preview of Procedures

### Verbal Response Procedures

Choral  
Partners  
Teams/Huddle Groups  
Individual  
Discussion

### Written Response Procedures

Types of writing tasks  
Whiteboards (Tablets, Virtual Whiteboards)

### Action Response Procedures

Acting out/Simulations  
Gestures  
Facial Expressions  
Hand Signals  
Response Cards/Response Sheets (Clickers, Plickers)

### Inclusive Passage Reading

Silent  
Choral  
Cloze

Partner  
Literacy Circles

### Use of Technology

## Elicit frequent responses

The active participation procedure should:

1. Involve **all students**
2. Be **structured**
3. Allow adequate **thinking time**

## Active Participation Essentials Think Time

When thinking time was extended beyond 3 seconds these benefits occurred:

1. Greater participation by all learners
2. Length of student responses increased
3. Use of evidence to support inferences increased
4. Logical consistency of students' explanations increased
5. Number of questions asked by students increased

## Verbal Responses – Structured *Choral Responses*

*Use when answers are short & the same*

*Use when recall and rehearsal of facts is desired*

*Use for quick review of information*

- **Students are looking at teacher**
  - Ask question
  - Put up your hands to indicate silence
  - Give thinking time
  - Lower your hands as you say, “*Everyone*”

OR

Simply say “*Everyone*”

## Verbal Responses - *Choral Responses*

- **Hints for Choral Responses**
  - Provide adequate thinking time
  - Have students put up their thumbs or look at you to indicate adequate thinking time
  - If students don't respond or blurt out an answer, repeat (*Gentle Redo*)

## Verbal Responses – Structured *Partners*

*Use when answers are long or different  
Use for foundational and higher order questions*

### Partners

- Assign partners
- Pair lower performing students with middle performing students
- Give partners a number (#1 or #2)
- Sit partners next to each other
- Utilize triads when appropriate (#1 #2 #2)

## Verbal Responses — Structured *Partners*

### • Other hints for partners

- Teach students how to work together  
*Look, Lean, and Whisper or  
Look, Lean, Listen, and Whisper*
- Change partnerships occasionally (every three to six weeks)

## Uses of Partners

1. **Responding to a question, task, or directive**
2. **Teaching information to a partner**
3. **Studying with a partner**

## Partner Uses

Responding to a question, task, or directive

### Saying answer to partner (Partners First)

1. Ask a **question**
2. Give students **thinking time**
3. Provide a verbal or written **sentence starter**
4. Have students share answers with their **partners** using the sentence starter
5. Call on a student to give answer

## Partner Uses – Sentence Starters

Support student responding by providing **sentence starters** (stems).

In what ways are emperor penguins different from other birds you know about?

Begin by saying:

Emperor penguins are different from other birds in a number of ways. First, .....

## Partner Uses Teaching Information

Teach information using:

- graphic organizers
- worked math problems
- maps
- diagrams
- notes
- drawings
- vocabulary log

## Partner Uses Studying with a partner

**Study foundation skills using a consistent routine**

### *Spelling Example*

1. Tutor dictates word
2. Tutee writes the word
3. Tutor displays correctly spelled word
4. Tutee checks the spelling and if the word is misspelled tutee crosses out the word and writes it correctly

## Partner Uses Studying with a Partner

### Study

- Give the students a minute or two to study notes, text material, graphic organizer, or handout

### Tell

- Ask partners (#1 or #2) to retell what they remember about topic

### Help

- Have the second partner assist by:
  - Asking questions
  - Giving hints
  - Telling additional information

### Check

- When both partners have exhausted recall, they check with their notes, text material, graphic organizer, or handout

## Verbal Responses - *Partners*

### Other Uses of partners

1. Monitor partner to see if directions are followed
2. Share materials with partners
3. Assist partners during independent work
4. Collect papers, handouts, assignments for absent partners

## Verbal Responses - *Individual Turns*

### • Less desirable practices

#### #1. Calling on volunteers

##### Guidelines:

- Call on volunteers only when answer relates to personal experience
- Don't call on volunteers when answer is product of instruction or reading
- Randomly call on students

## Verbal Responses - *Individual Turns*

### Less desirable practices

#### #2. Calling on inattentive students

##### Guidelines:

- Don't call on inattentive students
- Wait to call on student when he/she is attentive

##### To regain attention of students:

- Use physical proximity
- Give directive to entire class
- Ask students to complete quick, physical behavior

## Verbal Responses - *Individual Turns*

### Option #1 - Partner First

1. Ask a **question**
2. Give students **thinking time**
3. Provide a verbal or written **sentence starter**
4. Have students share answers with their **partners** using the sentence starter
5. Call on a student to give answer
6. Engage students in **discussion** using discussion sentence starters

## Verbal Responses - *Individual Turns*

### Option #2 - Question First

1. Ask a question
2. Raise your hands to indicate silence
3. Give thinking time
4. Call on a student
5. Provide feedback on answer OR  
Engage students in a discussion

## Verbal Responses- *Individual Turns*

### Procedures for randomly calling on students

- Procedure #1** - Write names on cards or stick. Pull a stick and call on a student.
- Procedure #2** - Use ipad or iphone app (e.g., *Teacher's Pick, Stick Pick, or Pick Me!*)
- Procedure #3** - Use two decks of playing cards. Tape cards from one deck to desks. Pull a card from other deck and call on a student.

## Discussions

### How to optimize participation in discussions

- a. Provide a **well-designed question** or prompt to direct the discussion.
- b. Establish **rules of conduct** for a discussion.
- c. Have students **plan** their responses to the prompt before the discussion.

## Discussions

- d. Have students share their ideas with their **partners** before the discussion.
- e. Scaffold the discussion with sentence starters.
- f. Discuss in groups of four to six members.
  - One person shares their answer.
  - Others respond with agree or disagree OR
  - Others ask clarifying questions

## Discussions

### Discussion sentence starters

#### Disagreeing

I disagree with \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

I disagree with \_\_\_\_\_. I think \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Agreeing

I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ and I also think \_\_\_\_\_.

## Discussion sentence starters

Adapted from presentation by Kate Kinsella, Ph.D.

#### Agreeing

My idea is similar to \_\_\_\_\_ idea. I think \_\_\_\_\_.

My ideas expand on \_\_\_\_\_ idea. I think \_\_\_\_\_.

I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ and want to add \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Disagreeing

I don't agree with \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

I have a different perspective from \_\_\_\_\_. I think \_\_\_\_\_.

My views are different from \_\_\_\_\_. I believe \_\_\_\_\_.

## Discussion sentence starters

Adapted from presentation by Kate Kinsella, Ph.D.

#### Clarifying

Will you please explain \_\_\_\_\_.

What did you mean when you stated \_\_\_\_\_.

Could you please clarify your idea for me

#### Paraphrasing

What I hear you saying is \_\_\_\_\_.

So you believe \_\_\_\_\_.

## Written Responses

#### Materials

- Paper
- Graph paper
- Graphic organizers
- Journals
- Vocabulary logs
- Post - its
- Posters
- Computers
- Electronic tablets
- Response slates
- Response cards



## Written Responses

### Response Type

- Answers
- Sentence starter
- Writing frame
- Personal notes
- Highlighting - Underlining
- Brainstorming
- Quick writes
- Quick draws
- Warm-up activity (Do Now)
- Exit Ticket

## Written Responses

### • Written response

- Gauge length of written response to avoid “voids”
  - Make response fairly short OR
  - Make response “eternal”

## Written Responses

### • Response Slates (white boards)

- Give directive
- Have students write answers on individual whiteboards
- When adequate response time has been given, have students display slates
- Give feedback to students

*Note:* “Virtual white boards” can be created using heavy sheet protectors or plastic plates.

*Note:* If iPad tablets are used by students, a “virtual white board” app can be used.

## Written Responses

### Response cards

- Have students write possible responses on cards or paper or provide prepared cards
  - Examples:**
  - Simple responses: Yes, No; True - False; a.b.c.d., 1.2.3.4
  - Punctuation Marks: . ? ! ,
  - Parts of Speech: Noun, Verb, Adjective, Adverb
- Ask a question
- Have students select best response card
- Ask students to hold up response card
- Monitor responses and provide feedback

*Note:* Utilize a *Response Sheet*. Label sides: True, False; 1 2 3 4; yes no; agree disagree

*Note:* Use *clickers* or *plickers*.

## Summary - Informational Text

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about ...

First, the authors pointed out that...

This was important because...

Next, the authors mentioned that...

Furthermore, they indicated...

This was critical because...

Finally, the authors suggested that...

## Summary - Informational Text

- Chapter: *Drifting Continents*
- Topic: *Wegener's Theory*

- In this section of the chapter, a number of critical points were made about *Alfred Wegener's theory of continental drift*. First, the authors pointed out that *Wegener believed that all the continents were once joined together in a single landmass that drifted apart forming the continents of today*. This was important because *it explained why the outline of the continents as they are today fit together*. Next, the authors mentioned that *Wegener argued that there were many pieces of evidence supporting his theory of continental drift*. Furthermore, they indicated that *Wegener used evidence of similar landforms and fossils on different continents to prove his theory*. This was critical because *other scientists could validate this evidence*. Finally, the authors suggested that *despite this evidence, other scientists did not accept Wegener's theory because he could not explain the force that pushes and pulls the continent*.

## Summary – Narrative Frame

The title of this story was .....

The setting of the story was .....

..... was the main character of the story.

In the story, we learned that .... was .....

His/her main problem/conflict/goal was ...

At first, ... tried to resolve this problem/conflict/goal by ...

Later, he/she tried to resolve the problem/conflict/goal by...

In the end, the following happened: ...

## Summary – Narrative Example

The title of this story was *My Summer Vacation*. The setting of the story was *a cattle ranch in Texas during summer vacation*. *Wallace* was the main character of the story. We learned that *Wallace was a young city boy who was spending his summer with the crew on the ranch*. His main problem was *that he had to learn all of the skills of a wrangler such as how to move the cattle from one location to another and use a lasso properly*. At first, *Wallace* tried to resolve this problem by *carefully observing the ranch hands and mimicking their behaviors*. Later, he tried to resolve the problem by *asking the other wranglers, the ranch manager, and even the cook to teach him ranch skills*. In the end, the following happened: *Wallace stopped a stampede*.

## Summary - Video

Although I already knew that ...

I learned some new facts from the video titled ...

I learned ...

I also discovered that...

Another fact I learned was ...

However, the most important/interesting thing I became aware of was...

## Summary - Video

Although I already knew that *migrating Vaux Swifts gather in NW Portland, Oregon in the fall*, I learned some new facts from the video titled *Vaux Swifts*. I learned that *the Vaux Swifts can not perch like other song birds due to the structure of their claws. These birds either cling to the walls of a hollow tree or a chimney or fly*. I also discovered that *their natural habitat is declining, forcing them to sleep in chimneys*. Another fact I learned was that *up to 30,000 swifts gather at Chapman Elementary School where they dive down into the chimney at sunset*. However, the most interesting thing I became aware of was that *the children at the school are very supportive of the migrating Vaux Swifts. To protect the swifts in the school chimney, the heat is turned off until the swifts migrate, resulting in the students wearing sweaters and coats in class*.

## Compare and Contrast

... and ... are similar in a number of ways.

First, they both.....

Another critical similarity is ...

An equally important similarity is ...

Finally, they ...

The differences between ... and ... are also obvious.

The most important difference is ...

In addition, they are ...

In the final analysis, ... differs from ... in two major ways: ...

## Compare and Contrast - Example

*Narrative and informative written products are similar in a number of ways. First, they both have an author intent on sharing his/her ideas. Another critical similarity is the goal of informative and narrative writing: to communicate to a reader or group of readers. An equally important similarity is that both genre' utilize the words, mechanics, and grammar of the author's language. Finally, both are read on a daily basis across the world.*

The differences between *narrative and informative written products* are also obvious. The most important difference is *their purpose. Narratives convey a story, real or imagined, while informative products transmit information that the reader needs or is interested in learning*. In addition, they are *structured differently. The structure of a narrative is based on the elements of a story: settings, characters, the character's problems, attempts at resolving the problem, and finally its resolution. In contrast, when writing an informative product, authors organize the information into paragraphs each containing a topic and critical details*. In the final analysis, *narratives differ from informative text in two major ways: content and structure*.

## Explanation

There are a number of reasons why ....

The most important reason is...

Another reason is ...

A further reason is ...

So you can see why...

## Explanation - Why

There are a number of reasons *why non-native plants and animals damage the Great Lakes*. The most important reason is *that many invasive species take food from native species*. Another reason is *that some of the invasive, non-native species attach to docks and to boats, causing great damage*. A further reason is *that some non-native species clog water pipes, restricting the movement of water to industries and residences*. So you can see why *actions need to be taken to protect the Great Lakes from invasive, non-native plants and animals*.

## Argument

Though not everybody would agree, I want to argue that...

I have several reasons for arguing this point of view.

My first reason is ...

A further reason is...

Furthermore...

Therefore, although some people might argue that ...

I have shown that ...

## Argument

Though not everybody would agree, I want to argue that *Andrew Jackson was not the president for the common man though he was the first US president not born into a rich family*. I have several reasons for arguing this point of view. My first reason is *that Jackson's policies called for the removal of Native Americans from their homelands in order to allow white settlers to take over native territories*. A further reason is *that while Jackson expanded suffrage to white men who did not have property, voting rights were not extended to women*. Furthermore, *Jackson was a plantation owner with at least 150 slaves*. Therefore, although some people might argue that *President Jackson, our 7<sup>th</sup> President, was the president for the common man because of his impoverished roots*, I have shown that *Jackson was NOT the president for Native Americans, women, or African Americans*.

## Action Responses

### • Gestures

- Students indicate answers with gestures
- Example: Adding gestures when teaching narrative paragraphs.

“Add a paragraph when there is a change in the speaker, setting, situation, or time.”

## Action Responses

### • Facial expressions

- Students indicate answer with facial expression
- Example: “Show me despondent.”  
“Show me not despondent.”

## Action Responses

### • Hand signals

- Students indicate answer by holding up fingers to match numbered answer
- Level of understanding – **Fist to Five**
  - Students display fist (no understanding) to five (clear understanding) fingers

## Action Responses

### Hand signals

1. Display numbered items on the screen
 

*Example:*      1. intention  
                         2. reluctant  
                         3. swift
2. Carefully introduce and model hand signals
3. Ask a question
4. Have students form answer (e.g., 3 fingers to indicate item #3) on their desks
5. When adequate thinking time has been given, have students hold up hand

## Monitor Student Responses

<b>Choral Responses</b>	Listen to all Hone in on responses of lower performing students
<b>Partner Responses</b>	Circulate Look at responses Listen to responses
<b>Individual Responses</b>	Listen carefully
<b>Response Slates Response Cards Hand Signals</b>	Look carefully at slates, cards, or hand signals when held up
<b>Written Responses</b>	Circulate Look at responses
<b>Action Responses</b>	Look at responses

## Circulate and Monitor

- **Walk around**
- **Look around**
- **Talk around**

## Provide Feedback

### Goal of Feedback:

- **close gap between current performance and desired response**
- **by informing students**
  - if response is correct or incorrect
  - if understanding is correct or flawed
  - **what can be done to improve performance**

(Hattie, 2012; Hattie & Timperley, 2007; Hattie & Yates, 2014; Lenz, Ellis, & Sadler, 1989; Wiliam, 2011; )

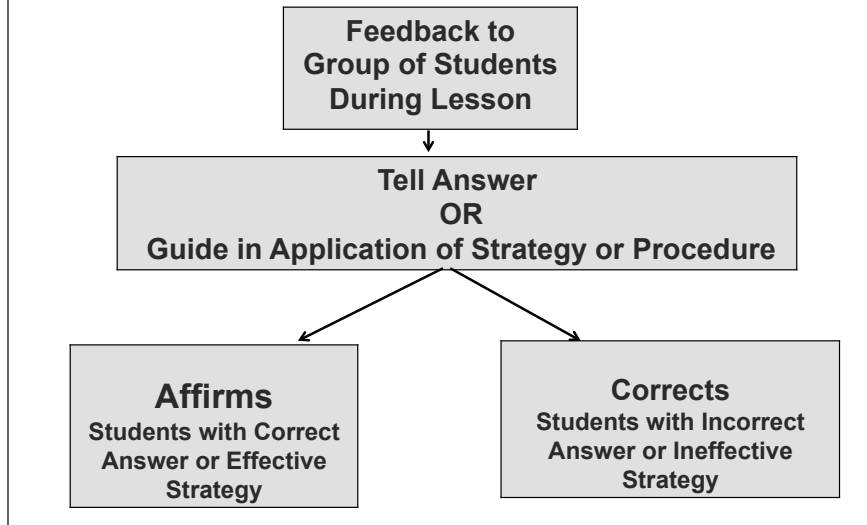
## Provide Feedback – WHY?

Hattie Effect Size for Quality Feedback – 0.75

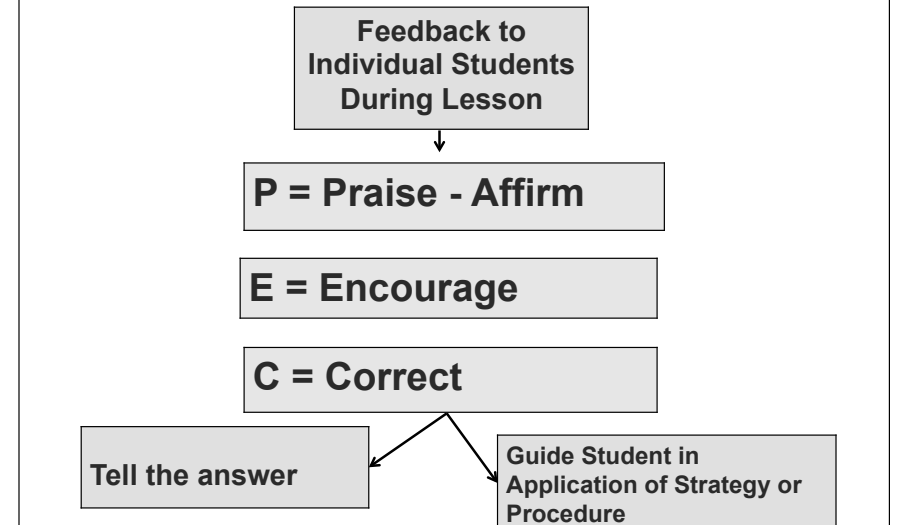
“There is a preponderance of evidence that feedback is a powerful influence in the development of learning outcomes.”

Hattie & Gan, 2011

## Examples of Feedback – To Group



## Examples of Feedback



## Provide Feedback

“Instruction is more effective than feedback. Feedback can only build on something; it is of little value when there is no initial learning or surface information.” (Hattie & Timperley, 2007)

## Maintain a brisk pace

- Prepare for the lesson.
- Use instructional routines.
- When you get a response, move on.
- Avoid verbosity.
- Avoid digressions.

**TEACH WITH PASSION**

**MANAGE WITH COMPASSION**

---

**How well you teach =  
How well they learn**