

## A clear and motivating instruction in 5 steps

**Motivate:** be enthusiastic about the exercise. Use your voice and body language.

### 1. The Why: what's in it for the students?

- **Validate:** Explain the relevance (goal/use) of the exercise (validation)
  - i. This can be short-term (useful for a skill they are trying to master) or long-term (useful for their future career or other classes)  
*"It will help you to.. "*  
*"You can use the output from this for..."*  
*"In this lesson/exercise we will work on developing..."*  
*"This will be on the exam."*

### 2. The What: what do they have to do?

- Explain what the students need to do step by step
- Mention what you expect from the students  
*"You don't have to have all the parts right, as long as you understand..."*
- Use a PowerPoint or drawing when it is a complicated set-up  
*"This assignment has three parts. First we will..."*  
*"One of you will come to the front..."*  
*"I expect everybody else to help / pay attention..."*  
*"I do not know the answer myself, we will work it out together."*

### 3. Check: Do the students understand what is expected from them?

- Make eye contact and ask if they understand.  
*"Is this clear?"*
- Make sure to wait long enough to give the students time to think.

### 4. The How: What are the practicalities?

- What time do they need to finish?  
*"You have five minutes for the first part."*
- LASTLY if necessary:
  - (Let them) form groups
  - Hand out the information they need.

### 5. Start! Give the signal that your explanation is finished and your students can start working.