

5.A GIVING FEEDBACK ON PARTICIPANTS' ARTISTIC PRODUCTIONS

by Elan Interculturel

Duration 15 to 30 minutes

Participants 5 to 15

Objectives Valuing the work of each participant and motivating them
To learn to articulate a well thought out opinion
To create a learning environment that encourages creativity

Materials

- Flipchart paper and markers
- Envelopes, one for each participant
- Post-it sheets
- Pens
- Tack

Instructions

1: Create a safe space
Hand out sheets of paper and pens to participants. Ask them individually to think of rules to ensure that they feel safe when they are given feedback on their creations. Give some examples.
After 5 minutes, sit in a circle. Invite people to take turns sharing one of the rules they have written. Take as many turns as necessary to explore all the ideas. After each idea, discuss it together. If the group agrees, write the rule on a piece of flipchart paper.

Example of rules for giving feedback:

- All criticism comes with two positive comments, one before and one after. In order to highlight the positive aspects of the work ("I liked the fact that...", "I think your creation could be richer with...", "What I think is very positive is...") and not to discourage people.

- Criticisms are precise and factual in order to avoid misinterpretations. They always come with suggestions for improvement.
- Feedback can be done in writing and anonymously. Because of personal affinities and social identities (e.g. facilitator) some opinions may be more interesting than others in the eyes of the participants. Anonymity ensures that each feedback is perceived equally.
- Clapping is replaced by a silent sign/movement (e.g. people shake their hands in the air). This allows all participants to feel equally valued (avoiding some receiving more applause than others). It also protects sound-sensitive people.
- During plenary debriefings, give preference to positive feedback. Criticism or suggestions for improvement can be made in pairs or sub-groups.
- It is not useful to repeat a criticism if it has already been said by someone else.

2: Written feedback

Suggest this activity if you are organising a plenary feedback session in which people present the work they have done.

1. Write the names of the participants on envelopes (one name per person) and stick them on the wall.
2. Hand out Post-it notes and pens to everyone.
3. After the presentation of each production, give people 5 to 10 minutes to write a short note to the author of the creation. They write down their impressions and opinions on a Post-it sheet, following the instructions given earlier. If it is a final feedback, simply invite them to write down a "nugget", i.e. something they particularly liked in the person's production.



1. Give them ideas: "what particularly touched me in your production was...", "I liked the fact that you...", "I think... matches you well"...
2. Once the feedback has been written, people put their note in the envelope of the person for whom it is intended.
3. When everyone has finished writing, everyone can open their envelopes and read the comments.

3 : Subgroup feedback

In this method, participants discuss their creations in sub-groups.

1. Create triangles.
2. Ask each person to show their creation to their partners. At the end of each presentation, the other two people have 5 to 10 minutes to answer these questions :
 - How did this creation make me feel?
 - What are the key words that remain with me, the messages that are conveyed?
 - What attracts my attention in the chosen form?
3. Once the three people have presented and discussed their creations, come back together and do a collective debriefing by asking each group to tell about their experience.

In step 2, include an envelope with your first name. Give feedback on the participants' creations yourself and be prepared to receive some, so that the relationship is horizontal.

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Tips for facilitators

Debriefing

Ask some questions:

Regarding step 1:

- Do you feel comfortable with the way feedback is given during the workshop?
- How do you feel about criticism?
- Are there any rules that could improve your experience?

Regarding step 2:

- How did you feel when you opened your envelopes and read the comments?
- Did you prefer this method to oral feedback?

Regarding step 3:

- How did the discussions go?
- Do the words chosen by your partners correspond to what you want to express?
- Does the form of your creation seem to be in line with your purpose?

5.B THE COMFORT ZONE CIRCLE

by Wired 99.9FM

The aim of this activity is to give you a method to evaluate a participant's reaction to the activities you'll be doing together. It can be done after any activity or as a general evaluation to close the workshop. Not all participants are necessarily comfortable with artistic production. It is important that they are given the opportunity to express their comfort level with what has been proposed. Taking those feedback into account will also help you adjust your methodology in the future. When one creates art, one often talks about oneself, which can put them in a vulnerable situation, so it is important that these elements are verbalised and that everyone can exchange on the issues and difficulties that were felt during the workshop.