
Mirage

Type	Quiet activity that can be done anywhere. Works on verbal and non-verbal communication skills.
Group Size	Any group size.
Equipment	Paper and pencils/pens.
Objective	To draw the object(s) described by one person.
Rules	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. One participant is given a drawing and stands at the front of the room facing away from the group.2. This person does their best to describe the drawing that they have to the rest of the group that do their best to draw the object.3. The drawers may not ask any questions or talk.4. The person describing must make sure that no one can see the drawing that they are looking at.5. The person at the front may make no gestures.6. When this person feels satisfied that they have described the object, they draw it on a blackboard or larger piece of paper for the entire group to compare their drawing to.7. Get someone else to go up and try this activity.8. Drawings should include different combinations and size of shapes like squares, triangle and circles inside each other, stacked on top of each other, etc. The more complex, the more challenging the task will be.
Variations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Just like above but the group can ask questions of the person at the front.2. The person at the front faces the audience and is only able to use gestures in the air. No verbal communication at all.3. The person at the front is able to do all of these things: talk, answer questions and use gestures.4. Have two people at the front of the group with the same picture describing it to the group. Facing away, no questions and no gestures.5. Have all of the people in the group work on one duplicate drawing together or have groups of 4 or 5 work on one drawing together if your group is too large.6. Partner everyone up. One partner is blindfolded and does the drawing and the other person gives verbal directions to this person. Put the shapes up on the board and have the partnerships work together to copy the drawing. The seeing partner can look at the blindfolded partner's drawing and give verbal directions only.
Major Variation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Instead of trying to duplicate a drawing, have the lead person building something using blocks, toothpicks, straws or some other building material while describing what s/he is building and trying to get the other people to duplicate the creation.2. All of the group members need the exact same materials as the leader such as 15 blocks or toothpicks.

Group Work Activities

3. The leader is facing one direction with the materials in front of him while all of the group members are facing the other direction with their materials in front of them.
4. The leader is the only person that can speak and every time s/he places an object on the table / floor in a specific place or design, s/he directs the rest of the group on how to do it.
5. You can use some of the same variations listed above with this one.

Notes

- This is an excellent activity to do with a group to work on effective communication skills. Students never get tired of it. It's similar to charades.