

Encouraging Students to Ask Questions

Do you sometimes struggle with encouraging students to ask questions?

Last semester, I tried an experiment.

I intentionally used two different types of wording to motivate students to ask questions:

Wording 1: "Any questions?"

Wording 2: "What questions do you have?"

I discovered that "What questions do you have?" consistently generated student questions.

"Any questions?" elicited little, if any, student response.

Remember to wait at least 3-10 seconds to allow students to think of a question to ask.

And do let us know if you find "What questions do you have?" to be an effective technique to generate student questions!

Submitted by:

Lori Schroeder, Ph.D

Associate Director

Center for Faculty Development

Metropolitan State University

St. Paul, Minnesota

lori.schroeder@metrostate.edu