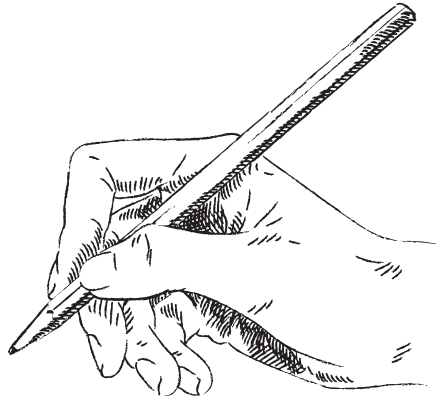




# Artistically Speaking

A Communication Challenge



# Artistically Speaking

## A Communication Challenge

The best thing about this challenge is that it requires no artistic ability, or maybe it is the laughter that seems to walk hand-in-hand with it as the students work.

Students will need **three pieces of printer paper**, and a **pencil**.

### Step 1

Ask students to spend five minutes drawing whatever they would like to draw. Set a timer, but give them no clues, or any guidance on what to draw. Do not let them look at what anyone else has drawn!

### Step 2

Randomly divide the students into teams of three, and ask the students to decide who in each group will be A, B, and C (again, giving them no additional information). Again, it is very important that nobody shows their work during this step!

## Step 3

Tell the groups that Person C will start. Without showing their team the drawing they made, they will have five minutes to describe their drawing to their team.

The goal of the exercise is to have each team member recreate Person C's drawing based upon Person C's verbal descriptions of it, alone.

## Step 4

After the five minutes are up, have each group show off both the original, and the recreations. This should be the first time any of the team members have seen the original, or the recreation attempts! Plan for a lot of laughter!

## Repeat

Repeat the process for Person B and Person A, so that each team member has their five minutes (you will notice the results improve!).

## Reflect

Allow the teams to reflect at the end of the exercise. Remind the students that the art was just a fun way to practice communication skills, so they should focus on how they can learn from the exercise!

To help the students keep the conversations constructive:

- Ask students to comment on others only if they have compliments to offer; and
- Challenge the students to see if they can communicate in such a way that leaves everyone feeling good walking away from the exercise!