

Lecture Trivia

Purpose: Encourage active listening during a lecture.

Session Format: Training

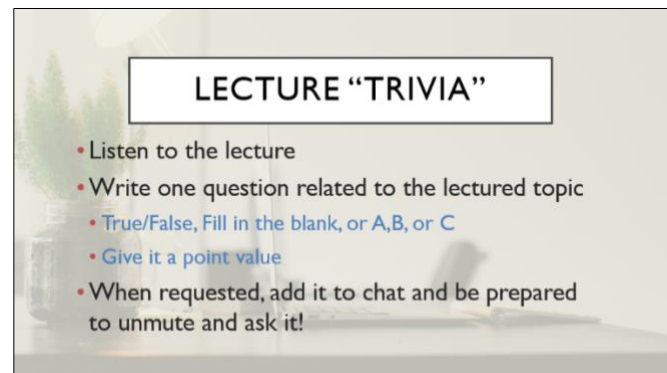
Audience: Any

Number of participants:

Time: 10 minutes

Materials: Presentation materials or visuals displayed from a shared screen that support the lecture.

Features used: Share screen/slide, chat, timer, audio, webcams



Description: As much as most dislike them, lectures are often necessary for portions of a learning program. Sometimes, things just need to be explained while participants are asked to listen. Technical details, step by step process explanations, software demonstrations are all examples of times when lectures are common. The best lectures are in short moments and use storytelling to help establish relevance and maintain interest. One such way to determine at what level participants are truly paying attention is to ask them to actively participate by using what we've decided to call the Lecture Trivia approach.

Step-by-step

1. Begin by sharing the instructions to the participants: "Listen to the lecture and then at the end of it, you'll be given time. It is a good idea to take a few notes."
2. Once the lecture is complete, give participants a few minutes of quiet time to write one question related to the topic that was just presented. It can be true/false, fill in the blank, or multiple choice. For fun, ask them to assign a point value.
3. After a few minutes, ask participants to share their questions in the chat.
4. Call on the first participant who provided a question and ask them the point value. Then ask them to unmute and read their question.
5. Ask the other participants to raise their hand if they want to answer and call on the first person who raised their hand to unmute and answer.
6. Ask the author of the question to determine if the answer provided is correct.
7. If it is correct, take note of the points they have earned. If it is incorrect, ask the next person to answer.
8. Conduct a conversation with the group with questions like these: were the questions written correctly, do you agree with the answers, etc. This is the opportunity to really discuss what was lectured!
9. Proceed through the questions, noting the points for all those who answered and celebrating the winner. Pride, bragging rights, and glory are often excellent prizes!

Design needs ahead of time: Prepare the presentation and lecture materials.

Before the activity begins:

Facilitator: Have some place to easily take notes and keep track of points. Note that some people are distracted by this assignment and that giving them the instructions to listen first, and then to write a question second, will manage this to some extent. Some attendees will not enjoy the competition component of this exercise, but most people love the energy and will still play along.

Producer: Help keep track of questions, who has answered, and points earned.

Backstory: Lectures can be the worst. But with this technique that I learned when I co-facilitated an online training session with Matthew Richter, President at The Thiagi Group, I now love delivering them and find reasons to do it. The energy and thoughtful conversations that follow are incredible and I am positive people learn so much from it. The act of writing the questions and then analyzing the wording requires participants to think deeply and to pay attention!

-- Kassy LaBorie

The Activity

| SAY | DO |
|---|---|
| <p><i>Facilitator:</i> “We have a lecture planned for this next segment, but before you check out, listen up! You are going to help me ‘write the test’ for this lecture by first listening to it, and then by writing one question from what you have heard. We will share the questions and you’ll even be assigning points to each answer, meaning, someone is leaving class today a WINNER! Let me explain how all this will work today...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• See the step-by-step instructions above and explain their next assignment before beginning the lecture. | <p><i>Producer:</i> Watch the chat for any questions or concerns.</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Stay on time and be clear when presenting.</p> |

Transition after the activity:

Facilitator: “That was more discussion following any lecture I have ever given before! You certainly paid attention and we learned more in-depth details that will continue to help us as we improve our processes.”

Spice it up with this alternative

Collect the questions privately and send the learners to lunch. Go through each question grouping them together according to topic, filtering out any repeat ones. Assign the points yourself instead and deliver the questions in a more controlled way once everyone returns from lunch.

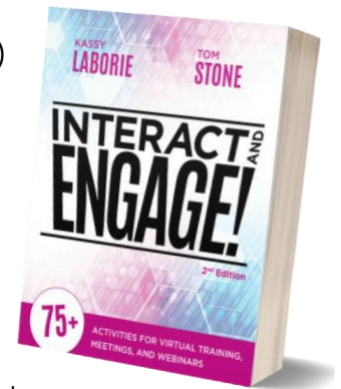
KASSY LABORIE

Kassy LaBorie is the principal consultant at Kassy LaBorie Consulting, LLC. She is a speaker, instructional designer, classroom facilitator, and author who specializes in virtual learning, teams, and live online technology. Kassy is passionate about helping organizations, learning teams, and training professionals successfully move to the virtual environment.

In her previous role at Dale Carnegie Training, she was the director of virtual training services, a consultancy that partners with organizations to help them develop successful online training strategies. Kassy also served as the product design architect responsible for developing the company's live online training product and experience. Prior to this, she was an independent master virtual trainer, a Microsoft software trainer, and a senior trainer at WebEx, where she helped build and deliver training at the WebEx University.



Kassy is the co-author of *Interact and Engage! 75+ Activities for Virtual Training, Meetings, and Webinars* (ATD Press 2022) and *Producing Virtual Training, Meetings, and Webinars* (ATD Press 2021). A frequent speaker at industry conferences since 2006, she has presented at Training Magazine events including their yearly conference and Online Learning Conferences, Chief Learning Officer symposiums, The Virtual Learning Show, ATD's TechKnowledge and International Conference & Exposition, as well as many local ATD Chapter events.



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