

The Modeling Process

Introduction Instructors use a variety of instructional methods. Some result in more effective learning than others. One of the simplest and most effective methods of empowering learners is the four-phase modeling process.

Definition The *modeling process* is an instructional method during which the instructor demonstrates a new task to the learner. The instructor gradually shares power with the learner during these four phases:

1. Instructor does the task while learner watches silently.
 2. Instructor does the task while learner helps.
 3. Learner does the task while instructor helps.
 4. Learner does the task while instructor watches silently.
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Purpose Use the four-phase modeling process when you want to instruct learners how to perform a new task.

Benefits When you use the four-phase modeling process to instruct learners how to perform a new task, you are conducting an effective lesson in four complete phases. You gradually transfer the power of your own knowledge and expert skills to the learners.

Guidelines Follow these guidelines when you model a new task for learners.

- Proceed through each phase in the prescribed sequence
Note: The sequence gradually moves power from you to the learner.
- Do not omit any phase, especially the fourth phase:
“Learner does task while instructor watches.”
Note: If you omit any phase, then you will weaken the effects .
- Resist the temptation to intervene during the last phase.
Note: You risk creating dependency upon *your expertise*, instead of empowering the learner.

Demonstration Directions for demonstrating the four-phase modeling process appear on the next page.

More...

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Directions Demonstrate a new task to a learner during these four phases:

Phase	Who	Does task while... .
1	Instructor	learner watches
2	Instructor	learner helps
3	Learner	instructor helps
4	Learner	instructor watches
