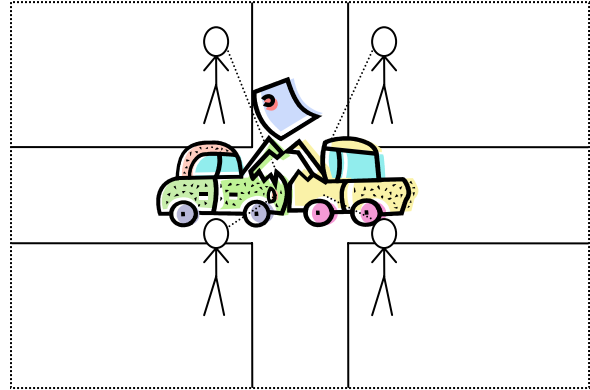




Making a Clear Explanation

A good way to make your explanations clearly understood is to approach the topic from 3 or 4 directions.

Example: 4 witnesses to a car accident at an intersection give a full account of the events. Make your point or explanation in 4 different ways, with transitions in between. This will ensure that everyone in your audience will get the picture.



When make an explanation or defining a term, follow this pattern:

Formal statement/definition + paraphrase + example + analogy

1. Formal statement:
 - a) A simple structure for creating formal definition
 - Word + general category + specific info to differentiate
 - b) Create definitions for 5 words related to your work, studies or daily life. Share their definitions with the class.
2. Paraphrase:
 - a) What is the meaning of the word “paraphrase”? **Do examples together as a class.**
 - b) The transitions that go with paraphrasing: ***In other words, That is, This means.***
 - c) Create a paraphrase for the 5 words you’ve already formally defined and share with the class.
3. Example:
 - a) Often people need an example to make the “idea” clear. The example applies the theory.
 - b) The transitions that go with using examples: ***For example, Let me give you an example, Here is an example will help to illustrate this.***
 - c) Add an example to the words you’ve chosen and share with the class.
4. Analogy:
 - a) What is the meaning of the word “analogy.” **Do examples together as a class.**
 - b) The transitions that go with using analogies: ***Let me give you an analogy, Here is an analogy to help make this clear.***
 - c) Add an analogy to the words you’ve chosen and share with the class.