

Above, Pause, Whisper

OUTCOME

Members return attention to facilitator

PROCESS

- “Above” in this context means, the facilitator’s voice briefly starts above the volume level in the room.
- Listen to the collective voice volume in a group rise and fall.
- As the volume begins to drop from its loudest point, speak a partial phrase in a voice just louder than what you are hearing. Examples are “As you stop...” or “This next stage...”
- Pause as a momentary hush fills the room, then in a whisper finish your statement. For example, “As you stop...and look this way, the next step will be to locate a new partner and share what you are learning.”

TIPS

- The volume of voices in a group cycle every 8 to 10 seconds from high to low. Listen until you can identify these ranges. Timing is essential to achieve the desired effect. The pause in this sequence provides a break in pattern, which brains are hardwired to detect, causing the momentary silence into which you interject directions.