

## Teaching Tip: What Kind of Teacher Are You?

### 1. The Explainer

The explainer is well-versed in his or her subject area, and so relies on explaining and lecturing the students. Charisma, eloquence and wit can contribute to the students' interest in the material and so the explainer's personality can be the difference between a memorable lesson and a dreary one. Students listen, take notes and occasionally answer questions; however they do not actively participating in the outcome of the lesson.

### 2. The Involver

The involver also knows his or her subject area and can make use of explanations and lectures. However, he or she makes use of other creative activities to stimulate interest and participation among the students. These could be games, demonstrations, discussions and so on. Students are more active in this classroom, although the involver remains in control of the outcome of the lesson.

### 3. The Enabler

The enabler has both knowledge of the subject and a desire to include the students. However, he or she also prepares lessons with insight into the students' motivations, relational dynamics and abilities. The enabler guides students towards learning aims with tasks and activities that are challenging and motivating, thereby handing control over to them. Students have ownership in the classroom and the material.

**TASK:** Write down the names of nine people who have taught you. Write your name down as the tenth teacher. Categorize your list in the categories above. Which teacher type is the most common in your experience? Which is most effective?