

Judging vs. Perceiving

Scene 1:

Mar, 2007 Immediately after conclusion of AoD

J: Great class. How about if we address a few of the points raised by the evaluations and student comments? I've made a 10 point list we should start dealing with.

D: Boy, that class was just amazing. So beautiful, uplifting.

J: Yes, I agree, but what about figuring out all these issues?

D: You know, we could really transform medical education with this approach. And we need to do research...

(D is focusing on the warm-fuzzy feeling of the experience, and on the big, big picture. J is focused on problem-solving specific details).

Scene 2:

Sept, 2007 (D is late. J is making lists)

J: Hi Dan. Great to see you after summer.

D: Yes, yes, how are you? Sorry I'm late.

J: No problem, I've been refining that list from our last class, and I really think there are several things we need to decide on.

D: Right, but how *are* you? I mean, really, how are you doing?

J: Great. You are so sweet to ask. Well, here's my list? But you know... how are *you*?

D: So excited to do AoD again.

J: Me too

(Time passes in visionary conversation)

J: Well, we only have 10 minutes left before my next meeting (I don't want to be late), so about all these details to work out...

D: What we need is a grand reconceptualization of the class...

J: Well, okay, why don't you email it to me? And I'll send you my list.

Scene 3:

Oct 16, 2007 (10 minutes before class; D comes in with powerpoint)

D: Oh, I'm so glad to see you! I guess you want to look at the powerpoint before I give it.

J: (anxiously) Yeah, I'd hoped to see it earlier. The students are going to be here in a few minutes.

D: Right. Well, here it is. I realized I forgot the hand-outs and the attendance sheet, so why don't you look at it while I go look for them?

J: Wow, this is great! This is really beautiful. And it even incorporates MOST of my list!

Note: I wrote this skit to deal with my frustration at the differences in style and approach to the class between me (problem-focused) and my co-instructor (visionary, big picture). I felt a lot better after I wrote it, although our styles didn't change much.