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# GEC Video:

- Global Engineering Challenge 2012  
<http://youtu.be/8UUrGjFtkXc>



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# Two faculty-wide project weeks: a spiral curriculum approach to enterprise and project-based learning

Dr Trish Murray

(University Teacher in T&L, Faculty of Engineering)

Dr Rachel Horn

(Senior University Teacher, Department of Civil Engineering)



# The session...

## Context

- Who are our students
- The student journey (in terms of enterprise)
- The big picture: drivers/aims
- More details about the weeks
- Have we achieved our aims?

Some examples of teaching materials

Evaluation

What would ***you*** like to hear more about?



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# Who are our students?



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Faculty Of  
Engineering.

The  
Achievement  
Of  
Excellence.



"A" levels

Foundation Year



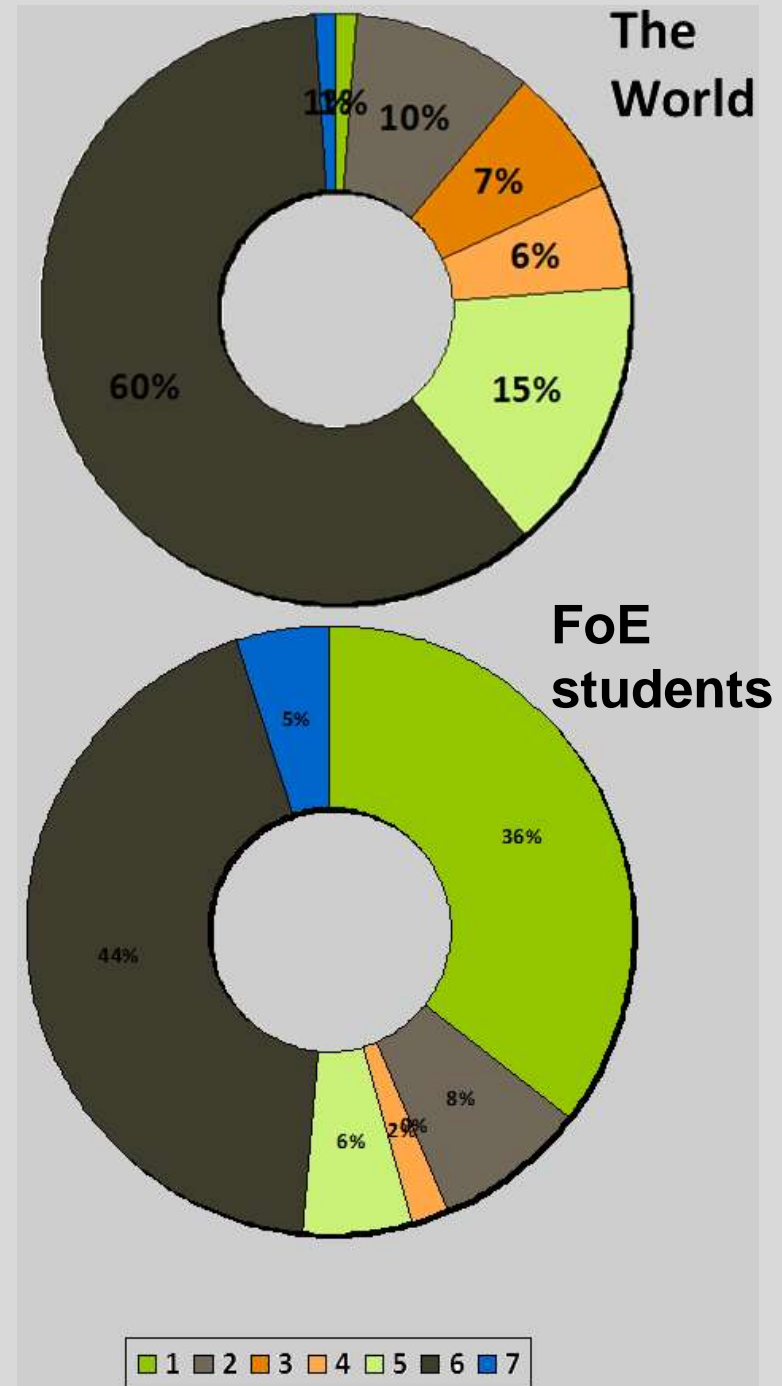
Variety  
of Quals

Sheffield  
International  
College



# Where do you come from?

1. The UK
2. Other parts of Europe
3. North America
4. Latin America/Caribbean
5. Africa
6. Asia (including the Middle East)
7. Oceania



# The student journey (in terms of enterprise skills)





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### L3/L4: Individual/Group projects

- **Knowledge:**
  - Disciplinary & technical, Complexity of real world problems, Commercial/ business awareness, Estimation & engineering judgement.
- **Skills:**
  - Multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working, Creative problem solving & innovation, Independent learning & research, Presenting and defending, Project management
- **Context:**
  - Open-ended, real world engineering problems, Employability & professional development

L2: ??

L1: ??





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# Drivers/Aims



**Disciplinary  
knowledge**

**Ability to  
articulate  
skills**

- Inter-disciplinary team working
- Project management
- Sustainable design
- Costings
- Business acumen
- Creativity & Innovation
- Communication

**Global  
context/  
awareness**

**Skills  
development**

**School  
approaches  
to learning**





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# More details about the weeks...

# Project weeks

- The Global Engineering Challenge
  - All 900 1<sup>st</sup> years
- Engineering You're Hired
  - All 900 2<sup>nd</sup> years

# Features of both weeks

## Students

- Work in multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural groups
- Challenged with real world projects
- Time split: taught sessions/group working
- Development through the week by
  - taught sessions
  - + regular external feedback
  - + internal group review
- Groups “assessed” presentation/written work

# Features of both weeks

Students helped by..

- PhD student facilitators  
(one per “hub” where a hub is 6 groups i.e. 36 students)
- Staff
- Industry

# The Global Engineering Challenge

- Groups devised randomly across faculty
- Projects based on the “Engineers Without Borders” Challenge. In 2013, based in Vietnam, projects include:
  - A method for storing and filtering rainwater, Electronic Disaster Warning System
- Taught sessions on:
  - Engineering (sustainability, ethics, project planning)
  - Generic skills (communication, feedback)
- Group review at end of each day
- Employability: Employers in opening plenary, alumni session including “what I wish I’d know in my 1<sup>st</sup> year” and skills audit





# Engineering You're Hired

- Groups devised by discipline according to project needs
- Projects suggested by Industry. Examples...
  - Energy from Sewage, Remote healthcare, Robots for construction.
- Taught sessions on:
  - Engineering (project planning, costings and IP, & feasibility)
- Groups led by team leader report to the “Board” at end of each day
- Employability:
  - Industry: opening plenary speech, “mentors” through the week, in board rooms and for final assessment.
  - Daily pitch to be team leader based on the “skill of the day”; Answer app form questions.



# EYH Video:

- Engineering You're Hired 2013

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBTJPLvaL8E>



# Enterprise in detail

- Progression and how enterprise through project-based learning is embedded within the degree

## L1: Global Engineering Challenge

- **Knowledge:**

- Global sustainability & ethics,
- Complexity of real world problems.

- **Skills:**

- Multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working,
- Creative problem solving & innovation,
- Independent learning & research,
- Presenting,
- Project management

- **Context:**

- Open-ended, real world sustainable development problems,
- Employability & professional development



## L2: Engineering You're Hired!

- **Knowledge:**

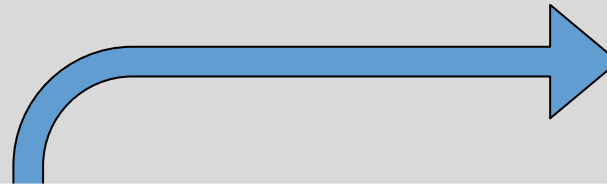
- Disciplinary,
- Commercial/business awareness,
- Estimation and engineering judgement

- **Skills:**

- **Inter**-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working,
- Presenting and **defending**

- **Context:**

- Open-ended, real-world **engineering** problems



## L3/L4: Individual/Group projects

- ***Knowledge:***
  - Disciplinary, technical. **DEPTH.**
- ***Skills***
- ***Context***





### L3/L4: Individual/Group projects

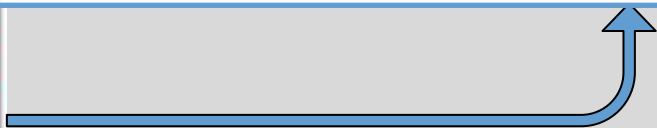
- Knowledge: Disciplinary, technical. **DEPTH.**
- Skills
- Context

### L2: Engineering You're Hired!

- **Knowledge:** Disciplinary, commercial/business awareness, estimation and engineering judgement
- **Skills:** Inter-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working, Presenting and defending
- **Context:** Open-ended, real-world **engineering** problems

### L1: Global Engineering Challenge

- **Knowledge:** Global sustainability & ethics, Complexity of real world problems.
- **Skills:** Multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working, Creative problem solving & innovation, Independent learning & research, Presenting, Project management
- **Context:** Open-ended, real world sustainable development problems, Employability & professional development .





## L3/L4: Individual/Group projects

### L3/L4: Individual/Group projects

- **Knowledge:**
  - Knowledge: Disciplinary, technical. **DEPTH.**
  - Skills
  - Context
- **Skills:**
- **Context:**
  - Knowledge: Disciplinary, commercial/business awareness, estimation and engineering judgement
  - **Skills:** Inter-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working, Presenting and defending
  - **Context:** Open-ended, real-world **engineering** problems
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  - **Skills:** Multi-disciplinary, multi-cultural group working, Creative problem solving & innovation, Independent learning & research, Presenting, Project management
  - **Context:** Open-ended, real world sustainable development problems, Employability & professional development



# The spiral curriculum

- Revisit ideas as progress through levels of study, each time introducing increasing levels of complexity.

# Have we achieved our aims?

**Ability to  
articulate  
skills**

**Global  
context/  
awareness**

**Skills  
development**

**School  
approaches  
to learning**



**Cultural  
agility**





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**Ability to  
articulate  
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**Global  
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**Skills  
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**School  
approaches  
to learning**



**Cultural  
agility**



Ability to  
articulate  
skills

Open ended, real world  
sustainability/engineering  
projects

Global  
context/  
awareness

Skills  
development

School  
approaches  
to learning



Cultural  
agility



**Ability to  
articulate  
skills**

**Global  
context/  
awareness**

**Skills  
development**

**School  
approaches  
to learning**



**Cultural  
agility**





Ability to  
articulate  
skills

Inter-disciplinary,  
multi cultural  
team working

Global  
context/  
awareness

Skills  
development

School  
approaches  
to learning



Cultural  
agility





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**Ability to  
articulate  
skills**

**Global  
context/  
awareness**

**Skills  
development**

**School  
approaches  
to learning**



**Cultural  
agility**



Ability to  
articulate  
skills

Giving Presentations,  
defending decisions,  
acting as team leader

Global  
context/  
awareness

Skills  
development

School  
approaches  
to learning



Cultural  
agility





The  
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Faculty  
Of  
Engineering.

**Ability to  
articulate  
skills**

**Global  
context/  
awareness**

**Skills  
development**

**School  
approaches  
to learning**



**Cultural  
agility**



Ability to  
articulate  
skills

Skills audit,  
answering application form qs,  
interacting with Industry

Global  
context/  
awareness

Skills  
development

School  
approaches  
to learning



Cultural  
agility



# **The Global Engineering Challenge**

**Global Issues**

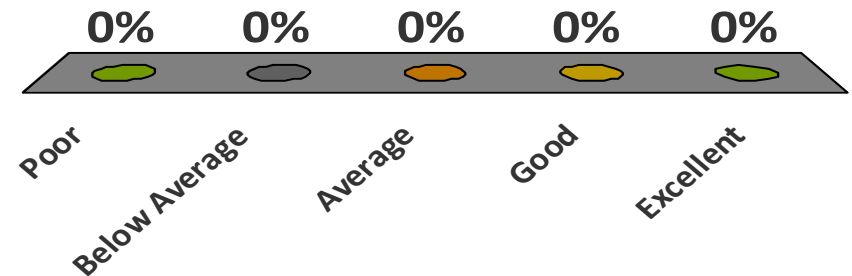
**The Employers View**

**The Engineers Without Borders  
Challenge**

**The Global Engineering Challenge**

# Rate your understanding of Global Issues

- A. Poor
- B. Below Average
- C. Average
- D. Good
- E. Excellent



In October 2011, the world population reached 7 billion

It took until 1800 for the world population to reach 1 billion

How will this impact on you?

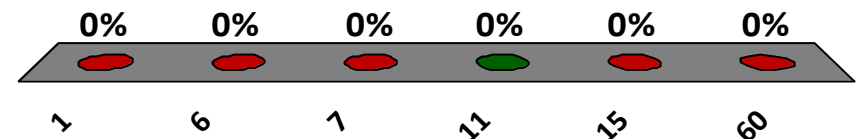
The UN forecasts that by 2100, the population will have tripled in “high fertility” countries and have fallen in “low fertility countries”.

Another billion will be added in 13 years



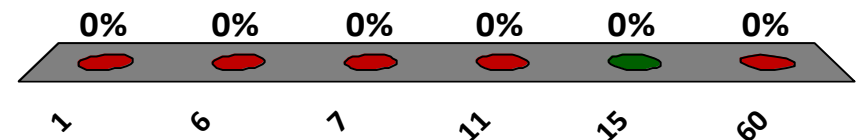
If the world population were 100 people,  
**how many would live in Europe?**

- A. 1
- B. 6
- C. 7
- D. 11
- E. 15
- F. 60



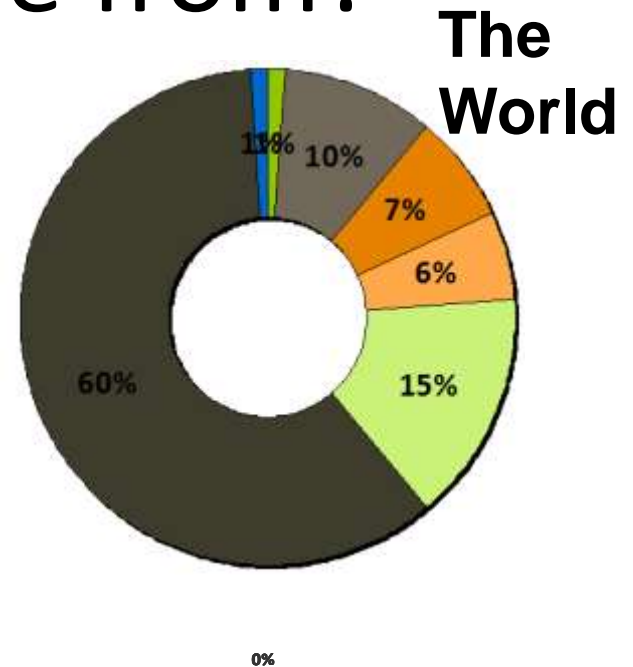
If the world population were 100 people,  
**how many would live in Africa?**

- A. 1
- B. 6
- C. 7
- D. 11
- E. 15
- F. 60



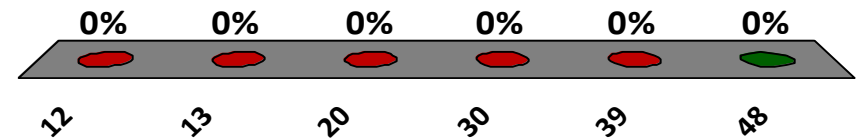
# Where do you come from?

- A. The UK
- B. Other parts of Europe
- C. North America
- D. Latin America/Caribbean
- E. Africa
- F. Asia (including the Middle East)
- G. Oceania



If the world were represented by 100 people,  
how many would live in absolute poverty  
( $<2\$$  a day)?

- A. 12
- B. 13
- C. 20
- D. 30
- E. 39
- F. 48



# Facts: Wealth

- The richest 2% of adults in the world own > 50% of the global wealth
- The poorest 50% of adults in the world own 1% of the global wealth

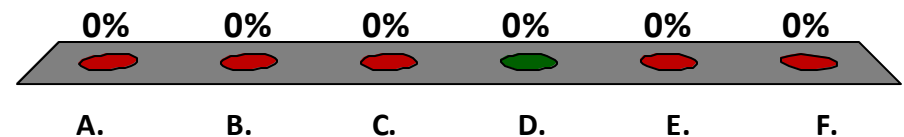
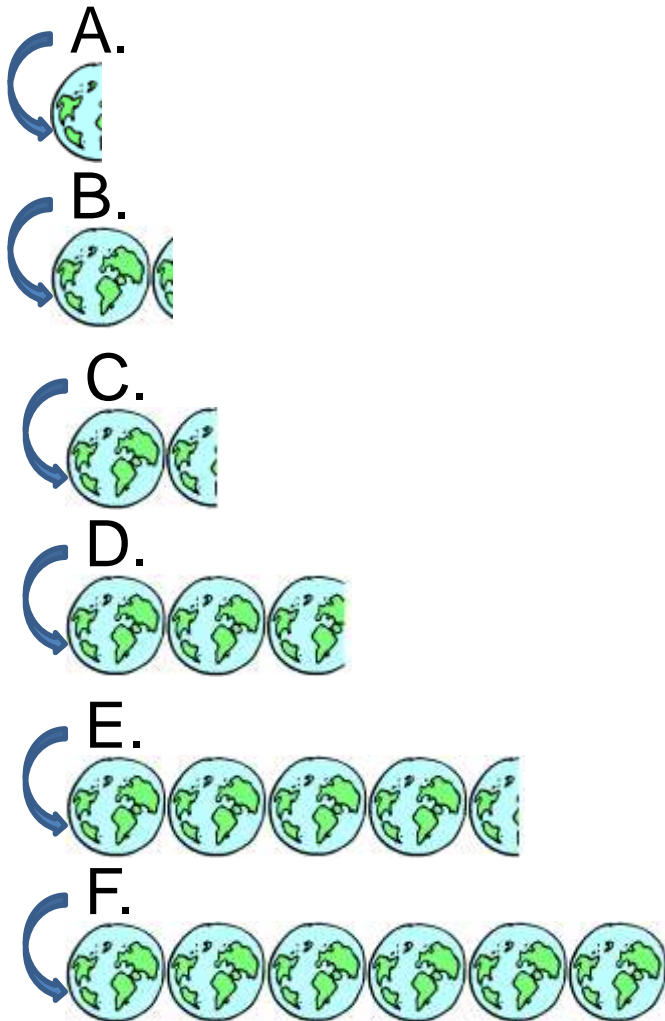




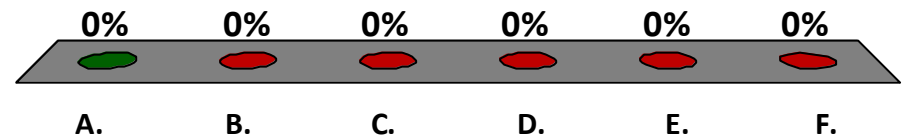
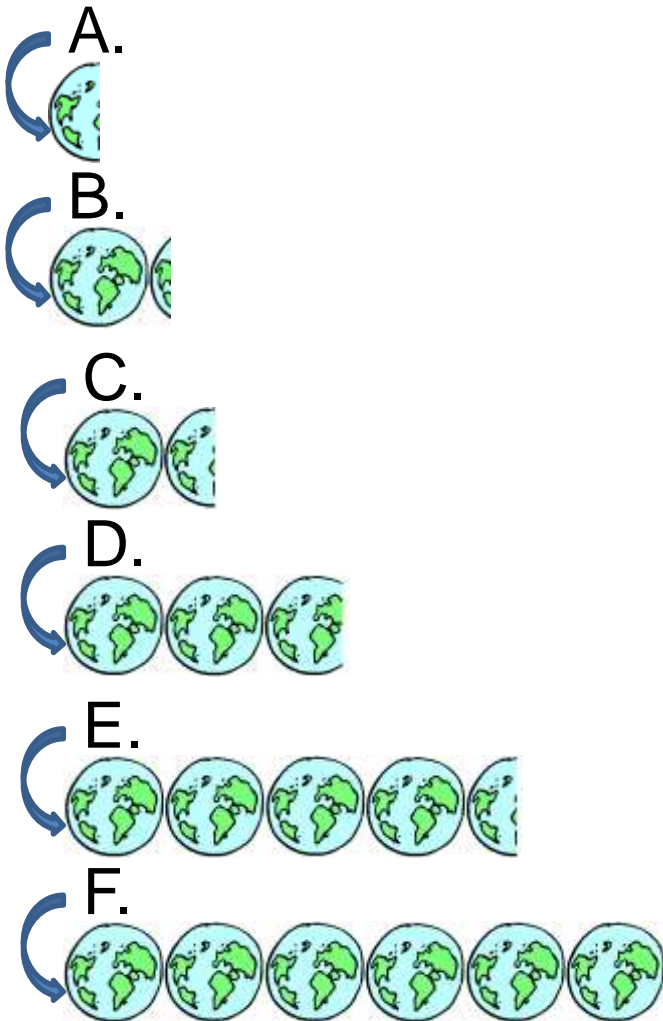
# How sustainable is our lifestyle?



# How many planets are needed to support the UK?

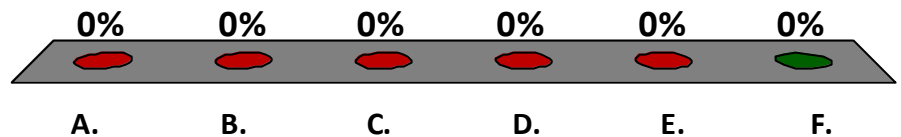
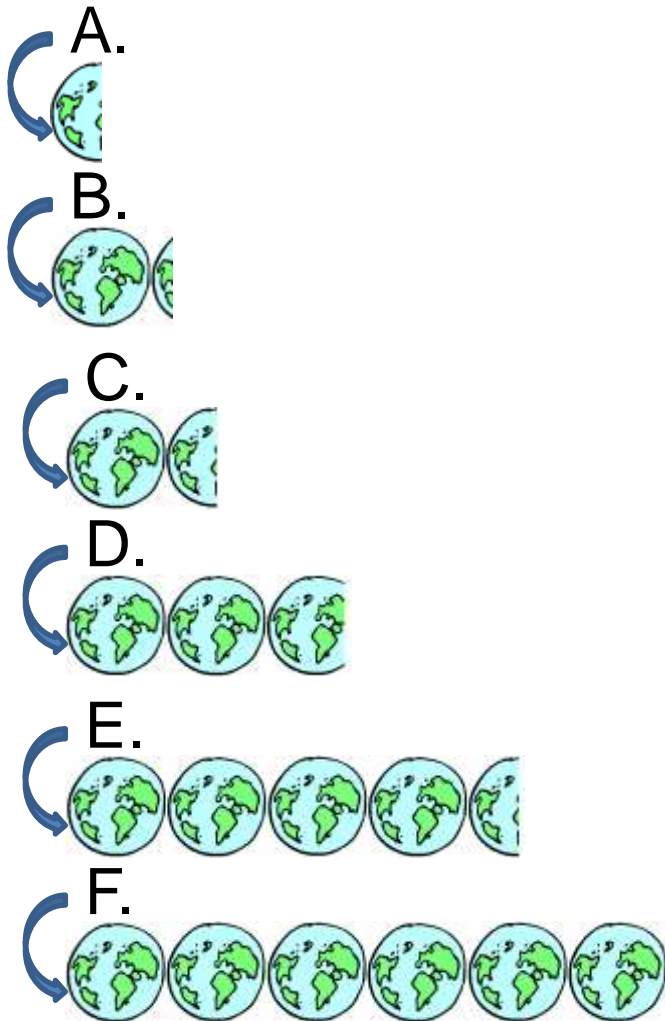


# How many planets are needed to support India?



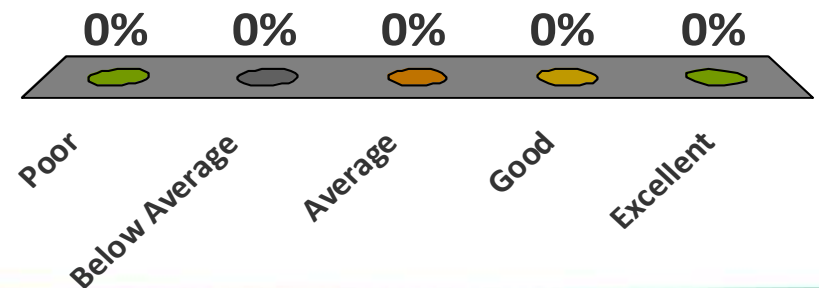


# How many planets are needed to support the United Arab Emirates?



# Rate your understanding of Global Issues

- A. Poor
- B. Below Average
- C. Average
- D. Good
- E. Excellent



**Rate your understanding of Global Issues**

# Effective Communication

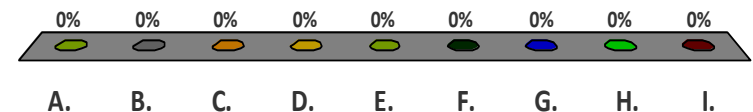
How to present with **Impact** and  
**Empathy**



# Fears

# Prioritise your biggest fears (worst first)!

- A. Mind going blank
- B. Nerves
- C. Speaking English when its not my 1<sup>st</sup> language
- D. Everyone looking at me
- E. Being boring and people switching off
- F. Lack of confidence
- G. Being asked questions I can't answer
- H. Talking too fast
- I. People not understanding my accent



# 1. Mind going blank

- Use prompts e.g. cards with key points.
- Don't try to read a script - it appears wooden.
- Use your visual aids as prompts.
- Learn your presentation **structure**, and this should help you not get lost. Know when and where the new sections are and learn the content in association with the sections.

*Click the arrow...*





## 2. Nerves

- Remember everyone suffers from nerves



Robbie Williams suffers from stage fright which in 2006 led him to cancel performances.

## 2. Nerves

- Some nerves are good, they will keep you on your toes.
- Disabling nerves are bad
- Learn how nerves affect **you** and prepare:
  - Do you talk too fast initially?
  - Do you get a dry mouth and need water?
- What works for you?
  - Imagine the audience is naked
  - Remember that you know more than they do
- Prepare and practice:
  - Visit the room first and get comfortable in it
  - Check the IT
  - Prepare answers to obvious questions



I step into a role. I think that for the next hour I am going to be this great, confident, entertaining presenter. I think myself into that person and then I perform!

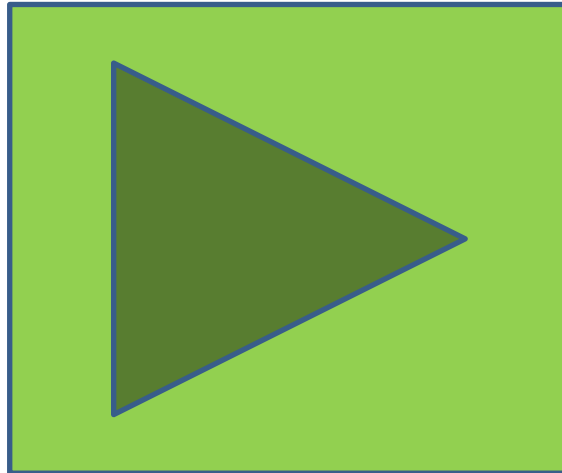
## **Professor Elena Rodriguez-Falcon**

Professor of Enterprise and Engineering Education

Director of Enterprise Education in the University of Sheffield

Faculty Director of Women in Engineering

*Click the arrow...*



### 3. Speaking English when its not my 1<sup>st</sup> language

- Remember that a presentation is about communication and is not a language test
- The presentation itself ...
  - Keep it simple
  - Speak slowly
  - Know your key ideas and reiterate them
  - If there is a particular word you struggle with .. is there an alternative?
- Practise on native English speakers and ask them to tell you when/if they don't understand.
- Take up opportunities to do presentations. You will improve with experience!



I come completely clean. When I lecture, I say to the students “I am from Mexico, if I say things that you don’t understand, please tell me. That way we are both learning and my English will improve”.

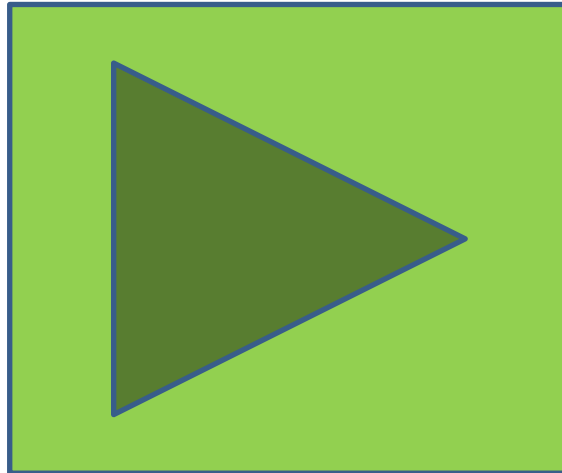
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*Click the arrow...*

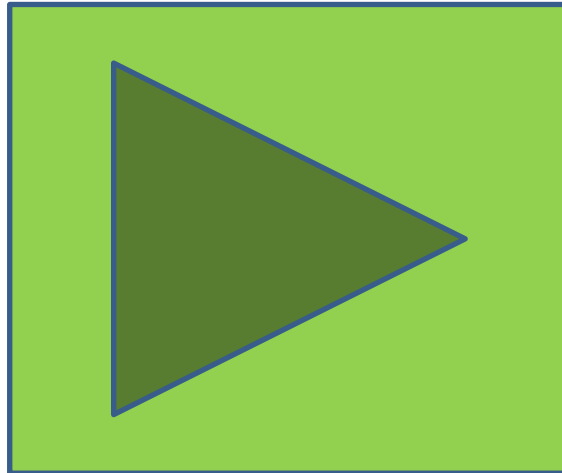


## 4. **Everyone is looking at me**

- Give them something else to look at!
  - A PPT slide, a prop, a Poster



*Click the arrow...*



## 5. Being boring and people switching off

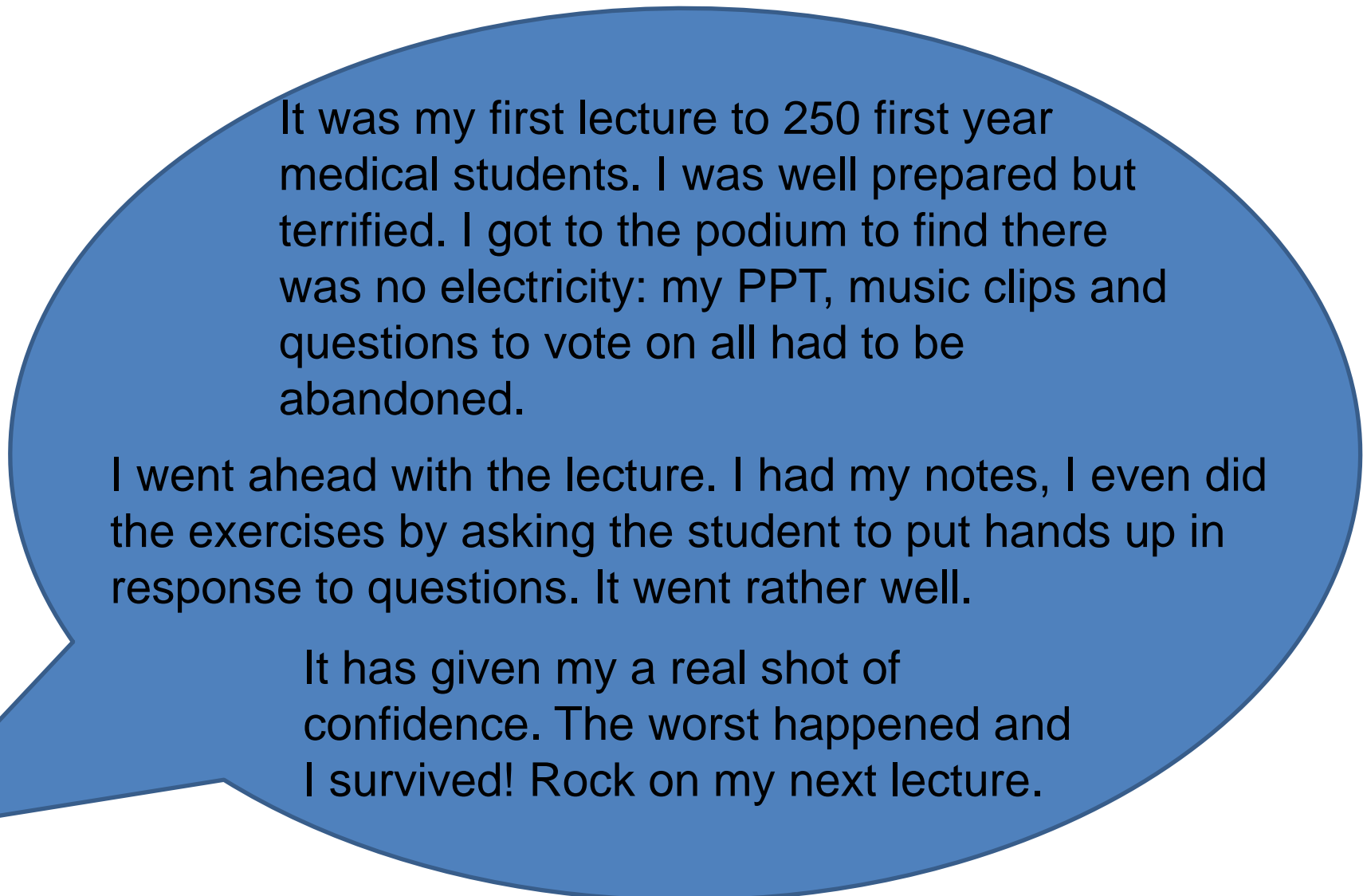
- Follow the guidance today and hopefully not!
- Inject some energy:
  - Move
  - Walk out to the audience.
- Is your voice monotone?
  - Vary the pitch
  - You should be conveying the grammar with your voice: Raise the pitch for a new sentence, pause at a comma. How do you convey a new topic?
- Introduce some interactivity:
  - Ask them a question/ a show of hands/ a vote.

*Click the arrow...*



## 6. Lack of confidence

- Be topic prepared!
  - Remember you know more about the subject than the audience does
  - Try and question predict
- Be practically prepared!
  - Check and familiarise: Visit the room, check the IT works and know where everything you need is (light switches etc.).
  - Practice
- Confidence improves with experience so seek out opportunities to build up experience



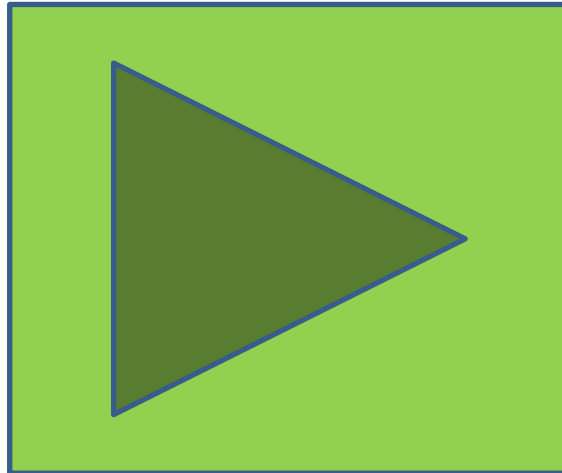
It was my first lecture to 250 first year medical students. I was well prepared but terrified. I got to the podium to find there was no electricity: my PPT, music clips and questions to vote on all had to be abandoned.

I went ahead with the lecture. I had my notes, I even did the exercises by asking the student to put hands up in response to questions. It went rather well.

It has given me a real shot of confidence. The worst happened and I survived! Rock on my next lecture.

Report of the experience of a lecturer being observed for the Certificate in Teaching and Learning at UoS by **Dr Trish Murray**.

*Click the arrow...*



## 7. Being asked questions I cant answer

- Before you give your presentation, think about likely questions and construct some answers. You should be able to predict about 40% of potential questions. But nobody knows everything and you are not expected to know everything!
- Don't pretend you know if you don't. This will lose you credibility. Own up.
- Bounce it out:
  - to colleagues
  - to the audience
  - Back to the asker and convert it to a discussion
- Depending on the importance of the question ask for an email address and follow up with an answer.

“Good question ... would anyone in the audience like to answer that?”

*Click the arrow...*

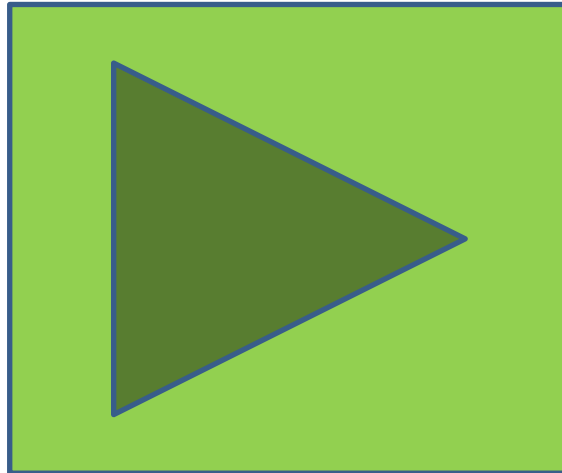




## 8. Talking too fast

- Often a problem in the first 5 mins (when most nervous)
- Practise talking slowly and pacing the first bit of the talk.
- Keep an eye on the time and adjust your speech rate accordingly

*Click the arrow...*



## 9. Talking with an accent

- Variety/accents are good
  - Provided you can be understood?
- Any problematic words?
- What about the speed of your speech?
- ...Get some feedback
- Think about your audience and unless you know they are all from a particular local area, avoid local words or phrases (colloquialisms and idioms)

“Champion presentation, canny lass”

“Don’t get cold feet [about your presentation], just stick to your guns and you will hit the nail on the head”.

# To Conclude: Top Tips

- Do not overcomplicate the content or pack in too much content.
- Think about everything from the perspective of the audience.
- Tell them what you're going to tell them, tell them and tell them what you've told them!
- Use your body (language and position) and your eyes to communicate with your audience.

# Back to the weeks and some student evaluation

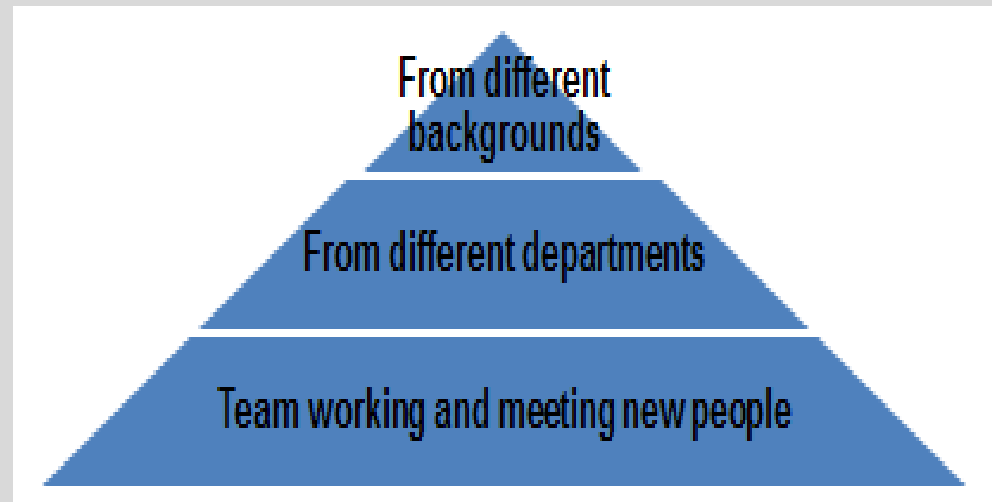
# GEC students

## What was the best thing in the week?

(free text response)

1. “team working & meeting new people”

(over 50% of responses)



2. “working on real problems”

(second significant response)

# EYH Feedback

*"Working with expert engineers from industry such as Siemens gave us a brilliant opportunity to find out about future careers and get a really helpful insight into what challenges we may face.*

*Taking part in  
really good for  
experience."*

*"The general standard of the presentations were very good and bearing in mind they only had a week to develop their plans etc., the contributions from the students in the 'Q & A' after their presentations were very entertaining and I hope my comments / questions were seen as being constructive rather than negative. The theme of the week is ideal for engineers to sample how life will be in most engineering companies once they have graduated."*

Scott Belamy  
Projects Manager, Siemens plc.

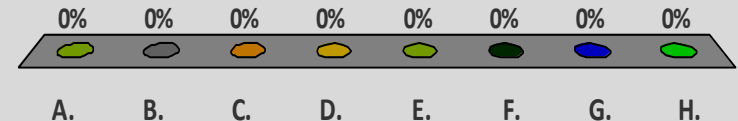
# What is innovative?

- The scale
- Cross faculty inter-disciplinary teams
- Inspiring
- Using **Unique!** facilitators
- Involvement of industry
- Embedding and giving context to enterprise & employability
- Spiral curriculum



# What would you like to know more about?

- A. Costs
- B. Engaging the students
- C. Engaging the staff
- D. Cascade teaching using PhD students
- E. Enablers
- F. Constraints
- G. The work involved
- H. What we plan on doing differently





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# What you would like to know more about (keywords)

Rank	Responses
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	






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The end and  
Thank you for listening!