



Knowledge to lead

The role of trainers in peer education

In this context, trainers play several roles at the same time:

- **Expert:** the trainer transmits information, skills and knowledge, answers questions and clarifies doubts.
- **Socializing agent:** the trainer should create an environment that encourages interaction among the group and fosters communication.
- **Facilitator:** the trainer leads the learning experience in an engaging way, so that learners participate fully and make the most out of it.

Techniques

In this context, trainers play several roles at the same time:

- Brainstorming
- Group discussion
- Case studies
- Game show quizzes
- Role plays and other theater-based techniques.

Practical tips

- Group discussions play a central role in this type of training and should be encouraged by the facilitator. Various facilitation skills are needed to lead group discussions effectively.
- Favor a “learning by doing” approach: doing is the best way to remember something.
- Use a variety of communication methods to reach everyone in your audience.
- Show visual materials
- Use role playing and other theater techniques: they help delivering the message in a way that reaches learners at the emotional level and increases motivation; stress the importance of acquiring basic acting skills for trainers.



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