

# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

---

The Midwest Clinic  
Chad R. Nicholson, DM  
University of Delaware  
12/18/2014, 4:30PM, Room W186

## **I. The Problem**

- a. Huge amounts of information and technology yields surface-level understanding and a learning style that expects fast, segmented instruction.
- b. In combination with director tendencies to stop, talk more than necessary, and develop habitual inefficiencies in rehearsal technique, student attention and retention drops significantly.

“Regardless of the content, less-experienced conductors tend to spend more time talking in rehearsals. They stop and restart ensembles more frequently without providing instruction and are less efficient, thus taking longer to prepare a piece for performance.” (Goolsby, 1997, 1999)

## **II. General Goals**

- a. Talk less (utilizing effective non-verbal gestures)
- b. Promote inclusive student activities
- c. Increase the quality and quantity of musical learning within an ensemble

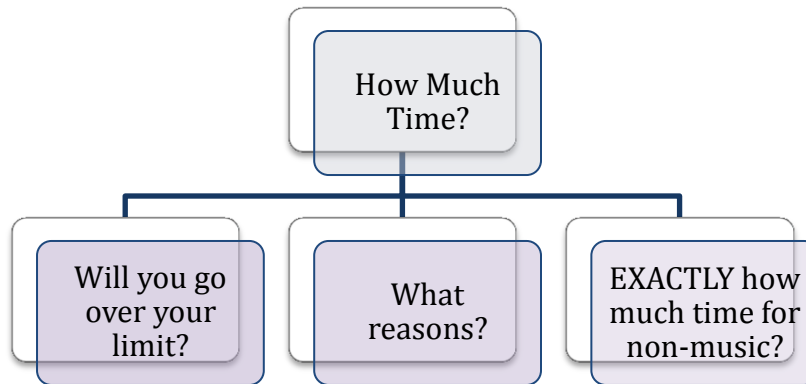
## **III. Planning is Essential**

- a. Which pieces?
- b. What musical issues need to be addressed?
- c. Where are these issues occurring?
- d. How will you help the students realize greater artistry?

# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

---

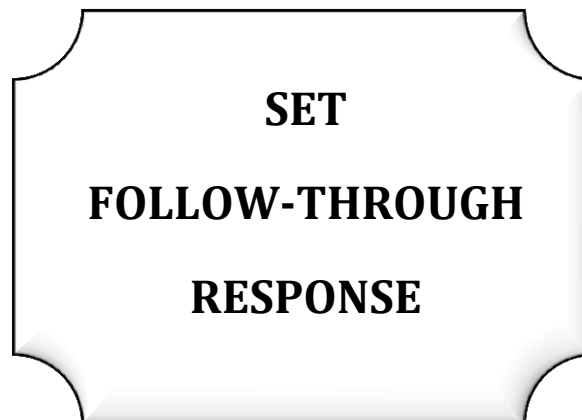
- e. If your first idea does not work, what is your next idea? And the next?
- f. Minimally, three activities planned per musical issue



## An effective plan identifies:

1. **What** will be improved
2. **Where** this occurs in the music
3. **How** improvement will be effected
4. **How much** time is allotted

## IV. Three Steps to Energize Instructional Sequences

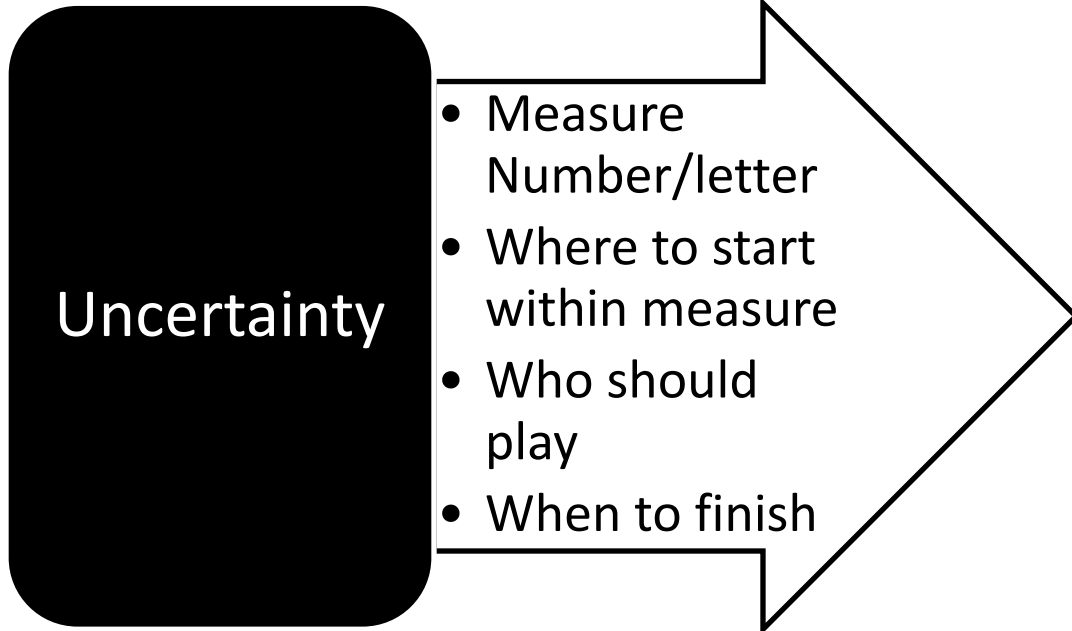


# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

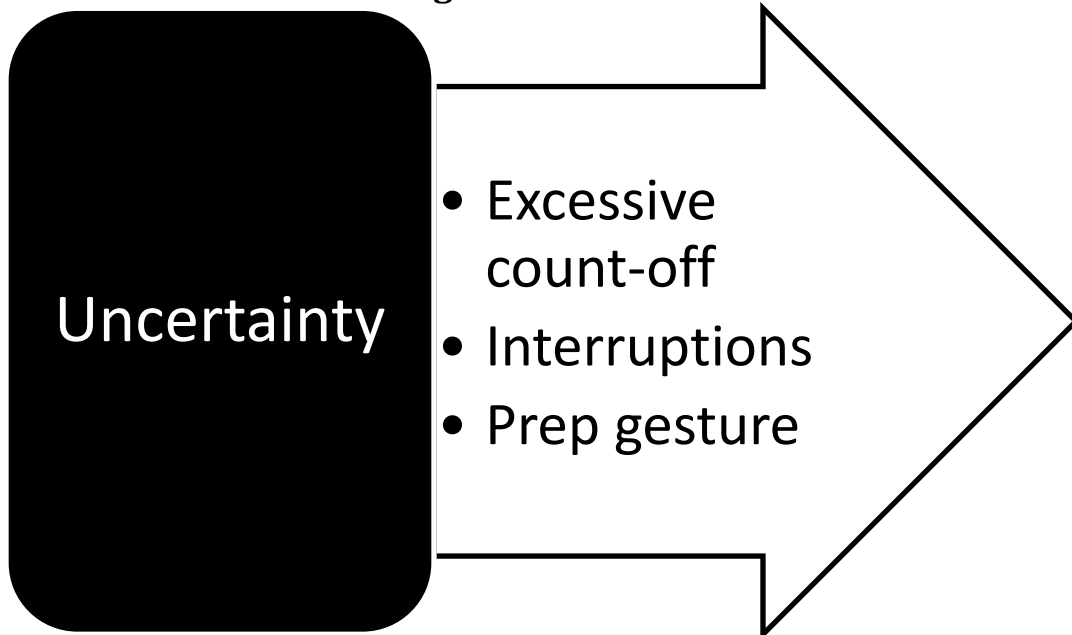
---

## V. Obstructions

### a. Set

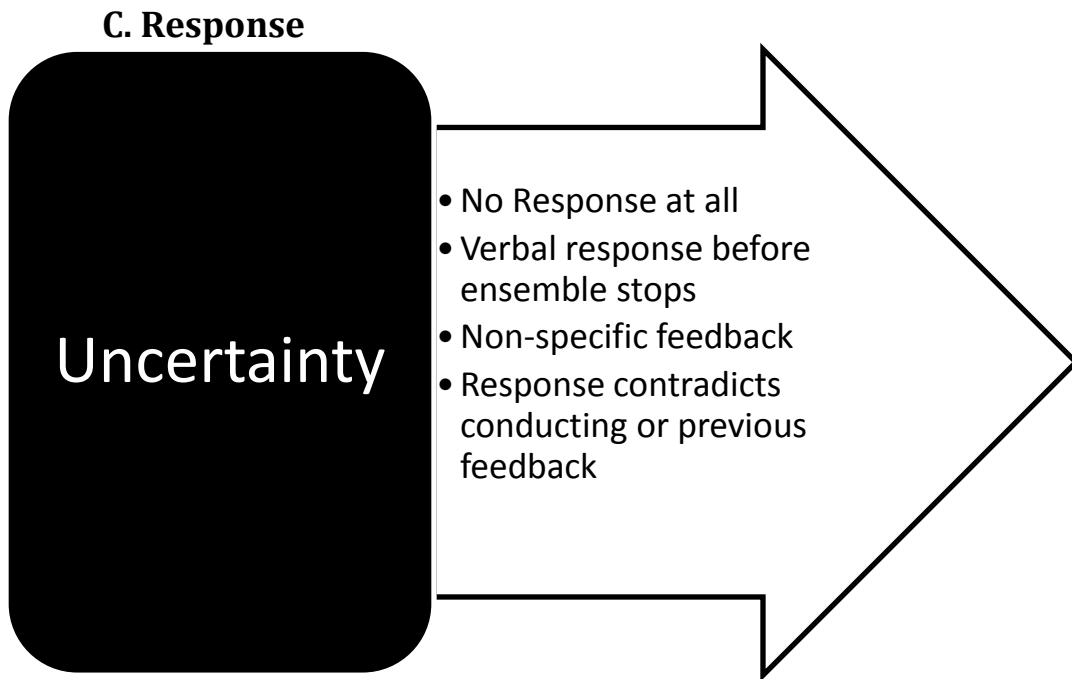


### b. Follow-Through

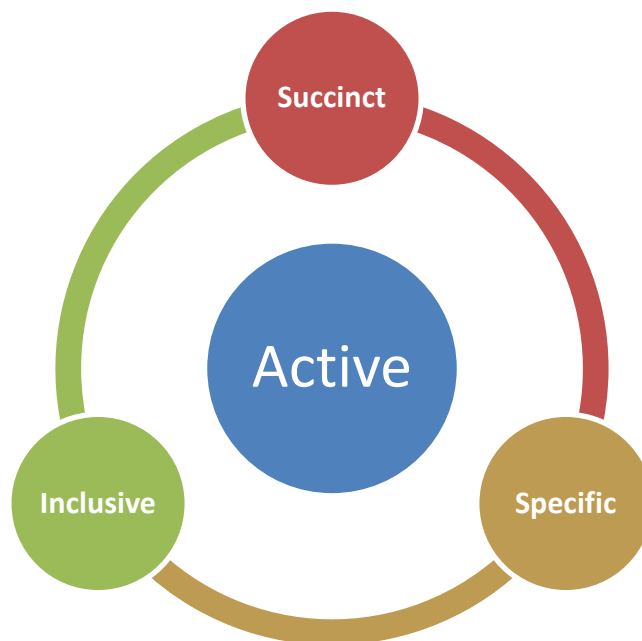


# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

---



## VI. Building a Better Response



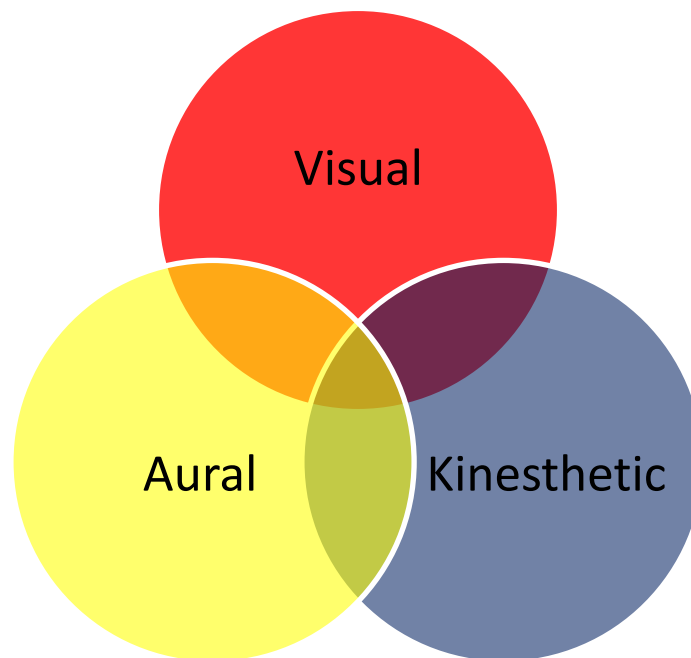
# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

---

## VII. Twitter and Other Applications

- a. Tweet reminders of the musical or administrative announcements of the day
- b. "Viewer Mail"
- c. Android: LectureNotes-free, S Note (built-in Samsung App)
- d. IOS: forScore (\$9.99), Music Reader for iPad (free)
- e. Look for annotation capabilities
- f. SmartMusic app (IOS only)
- g. Maestro (Android)
- h. Sound Memory (Android)
- i. Google Drive
- j. Sound Cloud (IOS, Android)
- k. MOXTRA (IOS, Android): Free! Students take a photo of the music page, record themselves playing it, write questions or comments, and it creates a new page in the same "binder." Share with or email it to teacher!

## VIII. Deeper Learning Requires Instructional Creativity



# Analog Teachers in a Digital World: Engaging the Smartphone Generation

---

## **IX. Keeping up the Pace**

- a. Generate a list of ideas
- b. Add to it at every opportunity
- c. Anything you see, hear, or touch presents opportunities for great teaching and learning

Dr. Chad R. Nicholson

Conductor, University of Delaware Wind Ensemble

[cnich@udel.edu](mailto:cnich@udel.edu)

Author, *Great Music for Wind Band: Top 100 Works in Grades IV, V, VI*

Podcast: *Wind Bands of Every Flavor* (iTunes)