

PREFER WORKSHOP

Professional Roles and Employability for Future EngineerRs



KU LEUVEN



MARIANA LEANDRO CRUZ
PhD researcher TU Delft

GILLIAN SAUNDERS-SMITS
Associate professor TU Delft

*47th SEFI Conference
Budapest, Hungary
18 September 2019*

*Co-funded by the Erasmus+
Programme of the European Union*



*Erasmus Knowledge Alliance -
575778-EPP-1-2016-1-BE-EPPKA2-KA*

PREFER

Schedule

- › Introduction
- › Hands-on activity
- › Discussion

PREFER project

Professional Roles and Employability of Future EngineerS



PREFER mission

This knowledge alliance project aims to **reduce the skills mismatch in engineering** by equipping engineering graduates with more adequate tools to get a grip on the complex engineering reality.

Erasmus+

Field: Higher Education

Action: Knowledge Alliances

Key facts and figures



Partners:
13



Countries:
3



EU grant:
€ 988,462



Project duration:
2017 - 2020

Professional Roles and Employability of Future Engineers



Lead organisation

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN

Location: Belgium

Project countries

Belgium, Ireland & Netherlands

Project deliverables

1

A **Professional Roles Framework**
suitable for the European labour market

KU LEUVEN

2

Engineering-tailored tests to make students aware of their own strengths and interests concerning their professional competences

KU LEUVEN

TU DUBLIN
OLLSCOIL TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA
BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

3

New curriculum elements that focus on the acquisition of a particular set of professional competences

TU Delft

Development of new curriculum elements

Help I'm being interviewed

Communication skills

Chinese whispers with a Twist

Lifelong learning skills

Innovation skills

Innovation Bootcamp

Teamwork skills

Reflection

Chinese Whispers with a Twist



Communication skills

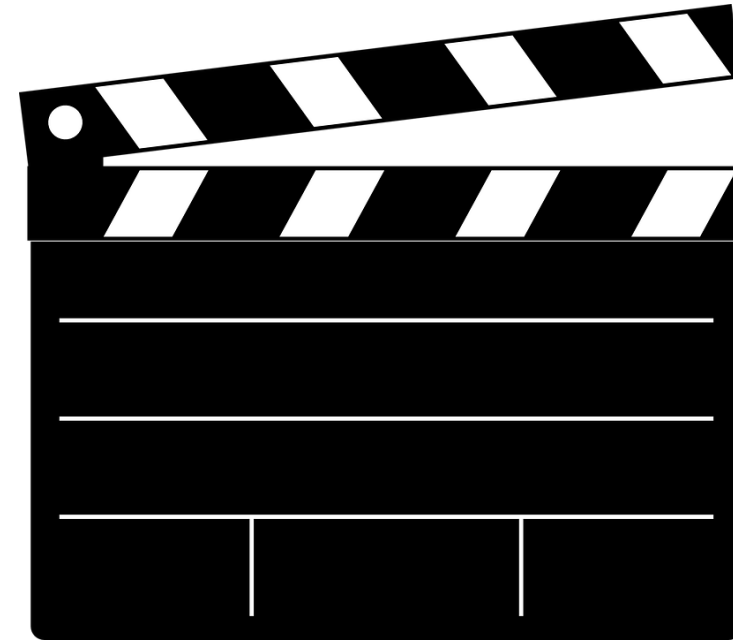
Presentation/Descriptive skills

Listening skills

Questioning/answering skills

Chinese Whispers with a Twist

- › Form groups of 4-6 people



Chinese Whispers with a Twist

› Permitted equipment:

1 sheet of paper per person

1 pen per person

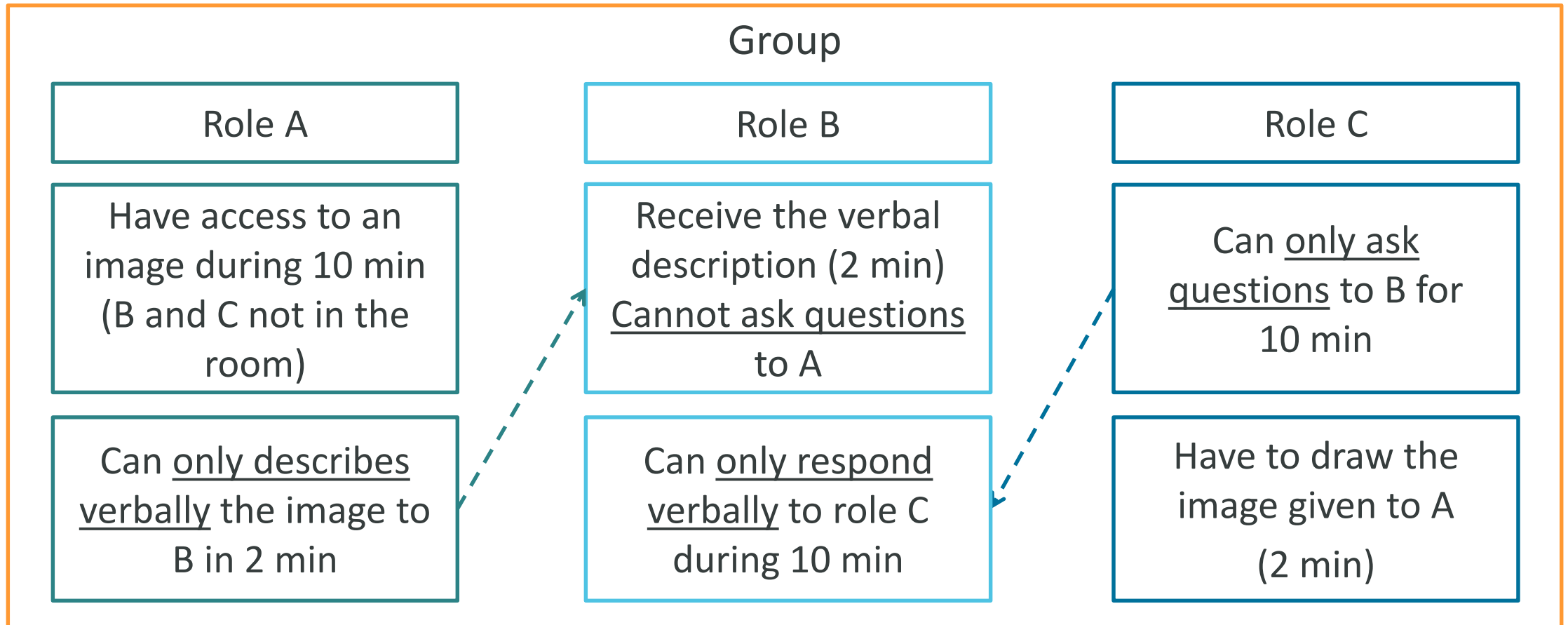
1 handout per person

1 case of coloured pencils per group (for role C)

› No passing/showing notes

Chinese Whispers with a Twist

Rules



Chinese Whispers with a Twist

Rules

Role A	Role B	Role C
Group 1 (2)	Group 1 (2)	Group 1 (1)
Group 2 (2)	Group 2 (2)	Group 2 (2)
Group 3 (2)	Group 3 (2)	Group 3 (1)
Group 4 (2)	Group 4 (2)	Group 4 (2)
Group 5 (2)	Group 5 (2)	Group 5 (1)













Reflection on activity

- › What did you learn from the activity?
- › How was your communication within the role and from one role to the other?
- › How was the performance of the group in general?
- › Did you have a plan/strategy to describe image, to reply to questions, to make questions or to draw the image?
- › Did the group manage the time?
- › Did you all participate actively?

Questionnaire

- › Fill in questionnaire

Discussion



- › What is the value of this activity to students?
- › How can it be used to develop students communication skills?
- › How could you integrate it into your engineering courses?
- › **Do you want to collaborate and use this activity in your curriculum? Let me know!**

Experiences of previous implementers

- › Sofie Craps, PhD researcher KU Leuven
- › Darren Carthy, PhD researcher TU Dublin
- › Calvin Rans, Assistant professor TU Delft

Thank you for your participation!

www.preferproject.eu

Mariana Leandro Cruz ✉ m.leandroacruz@tudelft.nl

Gillian Saunders-Smiths ✉ g.n.saunders@tudelft.nl

