

# AS I SAY

*[part XXI of the ongoing TASK series]*

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- For one bi-lingual ‘director’ and a group of performers unfamiliar with the language of the director.
- Instructions:
  - One performer is designated the ‘director.’ The remaining performer(s) are the ‘actors.’
  - Prior to performance, the director comes up with a multi-step task and provides the objects necessary for the task. Some of these objects must be ‘decoys,’ objects not used in the task.
    - The actors should not know this task
    - The premise of the piece as well as each step of the task should be printed in the program notes
    - The audience should be invited to view these notes at the onset of the performance
    - The audience CANNOT participate.
  - The director is to guide the actors in the completion of this task while speaking in a language the actors do not understand (or may have an elementary understanding of).
    - The director may repeat words, or use physical gestures but they cannot physically interact with the objects during the performance.
  - Example: providing a series of objects and teaching the actors how to perform a magic trick using these objects. Go step by step, speaking in a language foreign to the actors.
  - The actors work together as a group to piece together extra-linguistic context clues to complete the task. They should verbalize what they think they are being asked to do, what lead them to that conclusion, why they may agree or disagree with one another, etc.
  - The director can provide no feedback after the actors act upon the objects. The director cannot tell them if what they did was correct or incorrect—they must move on to the next step.
  - After the actors have (correctly or incorrectly) completed every step, the director reveals what the task was and goes through each step following this format: “Step 1 was [what was supposed to happen]; you did [re-stating what the actors actually did]”