

Motivation Problem

In the beginning of the semester students had difficult time understanding my real life examples or problems that are not very straightforward even from the textbook. Every time I introduced such a problem the students were disengaged and discouraged no matter that I told them this is going to help them in the near future as engineering problems are complicated and ill structured.

Strategies for Addressing This Problem

- 1.) I invited a practicing engineer to share his story using for example convenient of what we were covering at this time how he uses steam tables in his job. He not only had a great story to share but agreed to give the class a Power Plant tour which turned to another wonderful learning experience.
- 2.) In class I started asking the students to work in their groups and create their own problems, then pass it to the next group for solution to test if the problem is well structured.
- 3.) Work in groups on project to proposed a thermal system. The projects then were evaluated from three working engineers who share their feedback with the students.