

Learning Cues

Review the chart below to learn about how certain statements, or cues, can positively impact students' learning.

Type of Cue	Example	Student Message	Impact on Beliefs About Learning
Novelty	"This is a new way to approach this topic. I took a close look at it last week and found it really interesting."	"Wow, even my instructor is learning new things."	"Learning is not static. Everyone continues to learn."
Utility	"Our next topic is critically important. We will be using the concepts and skills for the remainder of the semester, and I'm sure you will find them helpful once you leave the classroom."	"This sounds like it might be valuable to me. I should make sure I learn this."	"I am capable of learning skills that will be useful."
Applicability	"I believe you will find this particular content helpful in other classes as well."	"My instructor understands what might be helpful to me."	"As a learner, it is important to understand what I should pay close attention to."
Anticipation	"While reading the next chapter, see if you can identify where the author is planning to take you."	"My instructor must believe that I am capable of learning this content."	"As a learner, it is important to understand what I should pay close attention to."
Surprise	"We've seen this information quite a few times this semester. However, I think you will find this approach is quite different."	"This sounds intriguing. I should pay attention."	"Learning is beneficial."
Challenge	"Who's ready for a challenging task? I think that you'll find this assignment very interesting."	"My instructor believes that I'm ready to take on some challenging content."	"My instructor has confidence in my ability to learn."
Feedback	"Completing this task will help you determine if you really understand the content from this past week."	"It's my responsibility to monitor my own learning."	"This builds the key metacognitive skill of reflecting on your learning."
Closure	"Many of you have asked questions about this next topic, and I've told you that we are getting there. Well, we're here!"	"My instructor is listening to my questions and is interested in helping me learn."	"When my instructor puts effort into teaching me, it communicates that they have confidence in my ability to learn."