

**February 2008 Academic Quality Improvement Staff In-service
Presented by Susan Murphy**

5 Whys

The 5 Whys is a question-asking method used to explore the cause/effect relationships of problems. The 5 why's can also be used to help motivate students in our classes. You would continue to ask, five times, why . . .

An example of using the 5 Whys submitted by Sharon Wichlidal:

1. Why should you have done your homework last night?
 - a. To be more prepared for class.
2. Why do you need to be more prepared for class?
 - a. So I can understand the materials.
3. Why do you need to understand the materials?
 - a. So I can get do the work on the job.
4. Why do you need to do the work on the job?
 - a. So I can make money?
5. Why do you need to make money?
 - a. So I can buy better things for myself and my family.

Now you see the importance of doing your homework and coming to class prepared.

Click <http://www.ftqg.org/site/workshops/anecdotes.php> to see the example of the 5 Whys presented at the February in-service. Other examples and definitions can be found by searching the Internet using 5Whys as the topic.