

ENGAGE BRAIN

Teacher's notes

Remind your students that some time ago they had been introduced to two terms, signal reaction and symbol reaction. Signal reaction at that time was likened to a hot stove brain. You touch a hot stove with your finger and you instantly pull your finger away. This type of reaction fits this type of situation.

Symbol reactions require the use of our thinking brain. We call this being cognitive. Most of the situations we face daily fall into the symbol reaction mode. Unfortunately, too many times we respond as though a signal reaction should be applied.

To call your attention to this, I will hang this poster up for you to see from day to day. Please, engage your brains prior to putting your mouths (or pens, or pencils, or computers) into gear. This does not mean to ponder something for a long time, but rather to take a second or two for your brain to become fully involved.

And as for the little vulture, he symbolically reminds us that failure to follow this instruction can, at times, produce dire consequences.