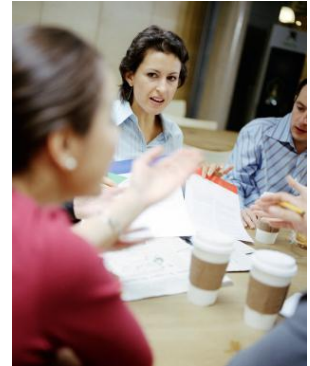


## Walk In My Shoes

The purpose of a Walk In My Shoes is for the Presenter to quickly gather viewpoints of fellow team members. It's like a situational simulation where people step into the shoes of the Presenter and state what they would do, based on the knowledge they currently have.

### Snapshot Guidelines

- 1) **Preparation** (3 to 10 minutes)
  - a) The Presenter states the situation or poses their question.
  - b) The Forum can ask clarifying questions, i.e. questions that will help them make a decision if this were happening to them.
- 2) **The Feedback Process**
  - a) Each Forum member provides their feedback, beginning with:  
"If I were in your shoes, I would..." Restrict all statements to first person (I would do this). Do not use "you" in any sentence or in any context.
  - b) Optionally, the person can explain their reasoning or decision-making process for their response.
- 3) **Conclusion**
  - a) The Presenter states their take-away value and the team debriefs on the process.



### Moderator/Facilitator Role

- Be sure that people follow the protocol of speaking from the 1<sup>st</sup> person perspective (I, me, we, us). The word "you" should not be in a person's response.
- If you don't have enough information or if you are uncomfortable stating what you would do in the Presenter's shoes, say "Pass".
- Although this tool is far off the traditional path of Gestalt language protocol, there is a level of safety provided by stating everything 1<sup>st</sup> person. I'm not telling YOU what to do; I'm simply saying this is how I would handle it if this were happening to ME.

### Examples

- My mother-in-law has offered to stay with us for 3 months after the baby is born to help out. We get along pretty well, but she gets on my nerves after a week. Is this a good idea?
- A good friend has applied for a job at another company and she wants me to give her a referral. Although she's a good friend, I know that she's not terribly reliable and I don't think it's a good fit. I also know she's struggling financially and I don't want to make things worse for her. I don't know what to do – help!
- My 8-year-old son wants to quit piano lessons. He's only been playing for six months. Should I let him quit?