Things to remember for successful activity in the classroom:

1. Groups must be pre-established and if possible projected /written on the board before the students are told about the activity they will be doing

2. By having the tables and chairs in place before the students arrive you can avoid a lot of noise and confusion (especially if it's the first time you are doing a different activity)

3. Have a written copy of <u>the instructions</u> which you will project or hand out to all of the members of the group before the class splits up.

4. Everyone must have a clear idea of the aim of the activity before they begin—get a student to recap the information using his own words.

5. Hand out each role. Depending on the activity it is possible to go over the roles to explain unknown vocabulary and double-check that everything is clear before they begin.

6. Give a time-line for the different stages—Write them on the board.

7. Split the class into groups. A) either prep for each role or
                                                    B) into final groups for the activity

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Designing Task-based Activities

Things to keep in mind:

1. real life content :   Can students relate to this situation?
2. meaningful situation :   Why are we doing this?
3. a final goal to work towards: Find a solution. Or Ways to respond to a problem.
4. outcome evaluation :   Is our solution acceptable/unacceptable? Why?

Two different Models :

1.   procedural model –guided activity—problem solving (roles given by teacher)
                --teacher imposed format   (ex. Q/As—Famous People)

                        ex. preliminary work on model dialogue ⎤
                              role cards   ⎬ ⟶ acting based on model
                              recordings of native speakers   ⎦

2. process model—What action can we take?
                —students –decide   on the event (ie talk show, open meeting)
                        --choose the issue to explore

                        –design the roles of the participants

The teacher's role :   "Traffic controler or Orchestra conductor (LOW PROFILE)"
                --keep students motivated
                --stimulate curiosity/maintain interest
                --inject ideas
                --swap roles if the pace slows down

Useful site :   http://www.eslflow.com/roleplaysdramatheatregames.html

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