

Think Pair Share

What Is a Think Pair Share?

Think Pair Share is a cooperative learning discussion technique introduced first by Frank Lyman and his team of educators in Maryland, USA. There are three stages of student action, with a focus on what students are going to be doing at each stage. Think Pair Share is most useful and beneficial for students because it organizes and structures their discussion. It minimizes off task behavior and has accountability built in because students must report to each other, and then out to the class.

How does it work?

THINK

The teacher begins to spark student thinking with a question, prompt or observation. The students then pause to THINK about the question. **For this activity, students in each group will process the information on the history of comics and be thinking about how to record it on a timeline.**

PAIR

Students PAIR up to talk about the answer each came up with. They compare notes and identify the answers they think are the most interesting or best fit the task at hand. **In this activity after each member has read the information, they will review the main points and decide which points will go on the Keynote slideshow.**

SHARE

Students share with one another first and then the teacher calls for pairs to SHARE their thinking with the others in the class. Go around the groups calling on each pair. Answers can be then recorded and projected on an overhead or LCD projector.

In this activity students have designed five Keynote slides with the important historical information in chronological order and included a slide on their assigned specific comic strip. When finished, each group will share their Keynote presentation.

So when might I use this?

-Before a lesson or topic to orient the class (ie: previous knowledge)

- During teacher modeling or explanation
 - Any time, to check understanding of material
 - At the end of a teacher explanation, demonstration etc, to enable students to cognitively process the material.
 - To break up a long period of sustained activity.
 - Whenever it is helpful to share ideas.
 - For clarification of instructions, rules of a game, homework etc.
- "http://www.eazhull.org.uk/nlc/think,_pair,_share.html

Sources:

http://www.eazhull.org.uk/nlc/think,_pair,_share.htm

<http://www.readingquest.org/strat/tps.html>

<http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/strats/think/index.html>