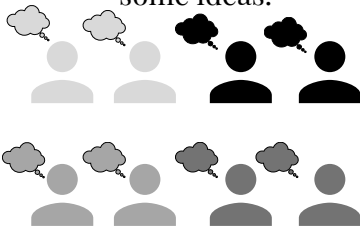


THINK - PAIR - SHARE

is an active-learning strategy in which students take some time to think about a question or problem on their own, then pair up with a partner and discuss, and then finally some pairs might share out with the whole group.

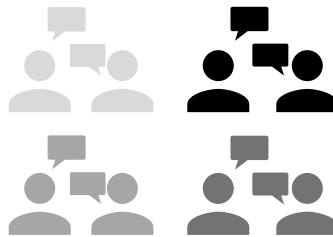
STEP 1

Students consider a question, problem, or prompt. They might think to themselves and jot down some ideas.



STEP 2

Students discuss their answer with a partner, identifying areas of consensus and disagreement.



STEP 3

Some students then share out with the whole class about the problem-solving strategy, conclusion, or discussion.



In a variation of this activity, called Think-Pair-Square-Share, after the Pair discussion, two groups have a discussion (two Pairs make a Square) before the share. This can be especially useful if there are lots of different approaches or opinions on the topic.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A THINK-PAIR-SHARE?

- Students have time to think about answers before having to share.
- Students share their pair or group answer, which can decrease pressure.
- Students hear another problem-solving strategy or approach.
- Students are given space to practice disagreeing.

WHAT ARE THE CAVEATS OF A THINK-PAIR-SHARE?

- Sometimes students who are confused may glean enough from the Pair discussion to convince themselves (and you) that they understand.

WHAT ARE EXTENSIONS OF A THINK-PAIR-SHARE?

- Instructors can add in polls to gauge where students are during each stage of this process. A Think-Poll-Pair-Repoll-Share-Repoll can help identify misconceptions and confusion.