

Think-Pair-Share

Students first **think** individually **about a question**, then **discuss their ideas with a partner**, and finally **share insights** with the whole group. The structured sequence **lowers participation barriers** and activates all students **before plenary discussion**.

Complexity : 

Group size: large

Format: all formats

Learning objectives / benefits

- **Break passive** listening
- Promote **articulation and argumentation skills**
- Support **processing of complex** or controversial topics
- **Reduce speaking anxiety**

Implementation

- Plan placement:
 - After introducing a key concept
 - Before revealing a solution
 - When discussing case studies or ethical dilemmas
- Timing structure:
 - Think (1–3 minutes, silent reflection)
 - Pair (3–5 minutes exchange)
 - Share (selected inputs in plenary)
- In plenary:
 - Call on pairs, not individuals
 - Summarize patterns rather than every answer

Recommendations

- Give a **clear, cognitively activating question** (not recall only).
- **Silence** during the “think” phase is **essential** – protect it.
- **In large groups, collect answers via chat or polling.**
- Avoid overlong **sharing phase**.
- Particularly **effective in culturally diverse groups** where students hesitate to speak immediately.
- **Online/Hybrid adaption:**
 - Use breakout rooms (pairs or trios)
 - Provide written prompt in chat or slide
 - Clearly communicate timing

A short explanation video



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