

Multiple Perspectives



Thinkers examine a conflict or issue from multiple perspectives to develop an informed opinion about how the problem ought to be resolved in a fair and just manner.

Investigation & Discovery



Thinkers are given a very brief synopsis of a conflict and are placed in charge of the investigation. What witnesses need to be interviewed? What evidence needs to be collected? What questions need to be asked? As the lesson progresses more information is revealed.

Pressing Pause



An intentional moment during any lesson, thinkers are asked to pause and share their gut reactions and to start asking questions to move from a gut reaction to an informed opinion.

DRAAW+C

thinkLaw's argumentative writing framework.



D: What is your **decision**?
R: What is the **rule** or law?
A + A: What is the best **argument** for both sides?
W: Weigh the consequences. What impact will this decision have on the **world**?
C: Draw **conclusions** based on analysis.

Public Policy Debate



Thinkers examine arguments from both sides of an issue and brainstorm counterarguments before reaching their conclusion.

W.I.C.K

A notetaking strategy that can be applied to any topic.



W: What is weird?
I: What do you find interesting?
C: What do you think is confusing?
K: What did you already know or what did you kinda like?

Premortem

A thought exercise: Think six months in the future. This plan has been a complete failure.



What went wrong? This thinking allows thinkers to consider all possible problems that might cause a project to fail. Then thinkers brainstorm ideas to prevent these issues from occurring.

Where's the Drama?

The key to high engagement is identifying the drama:



- Look for areas of conflict or disagreement.
- Look for questions that don't have one correct answer and ask:
 - What would the world look like if...?
 - Which is better/worse? Why?
 - What advice would you give someone when making a tough decision?

Settlement & Negotiation



When there is a conflict, thinkers identify the *issue* (the surface problem) and the *interest* (what is really going on and the real reason people are upset). Then, thinkers consider WHY each party should consider a settlement and generate a solution both sides will agree to.

Ranking



Thinkers consider events/items/ arguments. Rank them in various ways.

- Most important to least important from multiple perspectives
- Hardest to easiest to accomplish
- You have to remove 2. Which 2 and why?

Asking & Evaluating Questions



Present a fact, graph, event, or headline to thinkers and provide wait time for them to think about it independently. Then ask,

- What don't you know?
 - What questions do you need to ask
- After each response, ask thinkers
- Why is the answer to that question important?

Root Cause Analysis



Before solving a problem, people need to deeply understand why it occurs. Turn a problem into a question. As you answer the questions, continue asking "Why?" until you reach the root cause.

Stakeholder Analysis



Thinkers brainstorm a list of stakeholders for a decision. Then, thinkers rank the stakeholders by interest and influence and create a policy that they feel will be in the best interest of the key stakeholders.

Mistake Analysis

Which wrong is more right? Thinkers examine two



incorrect responses to a question. Both are wrong, but thinkers must justify which response should receive more credit. Which mistake is more serious?

What would Joe Schmo do? Joe Schmo is the guy that falls for every trick. Thinkers

look at a question and ask themselves, "What mistake will Joe Schmo make when he tries to answer this question?"