

Others as Learning Resources: Sharing

Talking Points

This strategy reveals learner beliefs and background knowledge, as well as providing an opportunity for colleagues to teach others. This technique improves learners' ability to listen, engage in ideas more deeply, removes status within the larger group, and builds a sense of community.

Learners are given a list of statements related to a given topic that they will declare "Agree, Disagree, or Undecided". These statements are specifically designed to not have a 'right' answer. Depending on how a learner interprets the statement and their own background knowledge, they may answer and change their minds through the activity.

The Routine:

- Learners are in groups of 3.
- Each talking point is discussed for 3 rounds.
- This is a timed routine. A group may NOT finish discussing all statements.
- The teacher MAY provide time at the beginning of the routine for groups to scan and prioritize the statements.
- There is NO crosstalk – only the person whose turn it is to talk may speak. People talk in a clockwise order.

Round 1:

- In order, each member of the group states whether they agree, disagree, or are unsure about the statement. Each group member states WHY they have this opinion.
- Remember: NO Cross-talk or talking out of order.

Round 2:

- Go around the group a second time, again individually stating whether they agree, disagree, or are unsure about the statement. Again, each group member states WHY they have this opinion. Individuals may change their mind from the first round or further solidify their opinion.
- Remember: NO Cross-talk or talking out of order.

Round 3:

- Go around the group a third time, individually stating whether they agree, disagree, or are unsure about the statement WITHOUT stating why. Record the decisions of the group and move on to the next question.