Engaging Students in Question Answering

**Kahoot:** <https://getkahoot.com/>

Create and play quizzes, discussions or even surveys (which we call Kahoots) using any device with a web browser… including a laptop, iPad, iPhone, iPod, Android, Chromebook, Windows Phone or PC and more. Blog with Classroom Ideas: <http://blog.getkahoot.com/>

**Socrative**: <http://www.socrative.com/>

Socrative lets teachers engage and assess their students with educational activities on tablets, laptops and smartphones. Through the use of real time questioning, instant result aggregation and visualization, teachers can gauge the whole class’ current level of understanding.

**Think Pair Share**:

After posing a question, the teacher has students “think” and then share in a variety of ways. The following are some variations to try in the classroom:

* **Think-Pair-Pod-Share:** A “Pod” is a sharing with a small group (a table group) – prior to sharing with the whole group. Students first share with a partner. Then bring all thoughts together as a table (pod) prior to sharing out with whole group.
* **Think-Write/Draw-Share** – Students write or draw their own ideas before they pair up to discuss them with a partner. This allows students to more fully develop their own ideas before sharing
* **Formulate-Share-Listen-Create -**

Formulate your answer to the question individually.

Share your answer with your partner.

Listen carefully to your partner’s answer. Note similarities and differences in your answers.

Create a new answer that incorporates the best of the ideas.

Be prepared to present your answer if called upon.

* **Mix-Pair-Share**

Students silently mix around the room. NO TALKING!

Teacher calls “pair.”

Students pair up with the person closest to them and shake hands.

Students who haven’t found a partner raise their hand to find each other.

Teacher asks a question and gives think time.

Students share with their partner per teacher instructions.

* **Think-Text-Share -** If students are allowed to use cell phones in class, rather than verbally pairing their ideas they could text each other. Then share with full group.
* **Think-Blog-Respond**

Student begins by thinking of blog post ideas

Student creates his/her own post

Reader responds

The post becomes the “pair” on a much larger scale. Another aspect of the “pair” is that a blog post is meant to be read by another person. The author’s ideas are shared through the post. When the reader responds, this is yet another venue for sharing understanding with the writer.