

Use a variety of discussion strategies

Using a variety of strategies can make class discussions more equitable and ensure each student has an opportunity to contribute without the pressure of speaking to a large group.

Adapted from:

The big list of class discussion strategies – Cult of Pedagogy

12 powerful discussion strategies to engage students – Reading and Writing Haven

- ✓ Think, Pair, Share – give students time individually, in pairs and then in the group.
- ✓ Framed discussions – share sentence starters or explicit frameworks to scaffold responses.
- ✓ Gallery walk or chat stations – students respond to prompts or questions placed around the room.
- ✓ Cafe style conversations – cafe style stations for ākonga to explore and share ideas and expertise. A “host” stays at each cafe table.
- ✓ Asynchronous techniques – for example use video response tools like Flip to record responses when students are ready.
- ✓ Backchannel chats – add discussion question sheets, voting options or digital platforms for students to use when they are ready to respond or as an alternative to speaking in class discussions.

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