

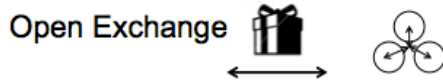
Think Talk Open Exchange*

Instructional Goal: Share with others and gain feedback



Strengths of this routine:

- + Talk part is not-threatening so students are inclined to participate.
- + Students can efficiently clarify confusions, correct homework, check for understanding, and generate ideas through this routine.



Roles: One Speaker, Two Listeners, One Time keeper (can be the facilitator for the entire group or one of the listeners. It is useful to set a timer so that no one has to watch a clock.)

Note: Whenever a participant's task is **to listen** then the participant **cannot talk**.

Steps:

- Talk Out Loud:** Speaker: describes a question, dilemma, or resonating ideas. Listeners: Two other participants listen without interrupting. No one but the speaker talks during this time period. If the speaker finishes before the time is up then the group uses the extra time to think.
- Think:** Everyone takes time to think about what they heard. During think time participants may jot down questions, record connections, patterns, and surprises, and take notes.
- Exchange:** *Speaker is not allowed to speak during this step.* It is often useful to move chair back a bit, but to stay close enough to listen. The two listeners will have an exchange about what they heard raising questions, making connections, noting surprises and patterns. It is helpful for the two listeners to look at each other, avoiding eye contact with the Speaker.
- Interesting & Useful:** Speaker shares what was interesting and useful from the exchange. Listeners listen to the Speaker.
- Repeat steps 1 – 4** (changing roles so that everyone has a chance to be the Speaker)
- Open Exchange** – engage in a short discussion to ask questions and talk about patterns that came up in the Talk Out Louds and the Exchanges.

This structure is based on the Micro Lab Protocol from the National School Reform web site. <http://www.nsrharmony.org/protocol/doc/microlabs.pdf>

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