

# Questioning

## Description:

Questioning is probably the most important formative assessment for the secondary student. It is deliberately used within (or before/after) a lesson to assess student understanding of information. There are various strategies that can be utilized. Some are as follows;

**Wait Time** - Using wait time can result in many positive things happening to students' and teachers' behaviors and attitudes. To attain these benefits, teachers are urged to "wait" in silence for 3 or more seconds after their questions and after students complete their responses.

Cultures of Thinking  
*in the Crusader Nation*



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**No Hands Up** – When using this formative assessment, a high-quality question should be asked and for a certain amount of time, kids should reflect without raising their hands. Say, "no hands up". Afterwards a number of strategies can be implemented. For example, turn and talk, stop and jot, hands up with whole class discussion, etc.

**Stirring the Mix** – In groups of 4 students discuss topic. One student moves to the next group and explains to them what they learned from the previous group.

**Talking Partners**- In pairs, pupils discuss their answers to a question. Each pupil has then to answer on behalf of their partner. This ensures that all pupils are engaged in discussions and question and answer sessions. It may allow some pupils to take risks with their answers.

**Walk About, Talk About (CAROUSEL)** - Groups of children walk around the room discussing questions set by the teacher at several stations. They note down their answers or observations at the question before moving on when instructed. At a new question, they read the responses, tick those they agree with and put a cross against those they disagree with. Any new ideas are added. This is an excellent technique for assessing prior knowledge before a new topic or for jogging memories for revision. Children are hugely empowered by use of big felt pens.

## **How to Use the Strategy:**

All of these types of Questioning Strategies need to be used deliberately. They should be a planned part of the day's activities.