Think-Write-Pair-Share

The traditional Think-Write-Pair-Share strategy is designed to differentiate instruction by providing students with time and structure for thinking about a given topic, enabling them to formulate individual ideas and share these ideas with a peer. In this modified strategy, a problem is posed, students have time to think about it individually, write their thoughts, work in pairs to solve the problem, and then share their ideas with the class.

**TEACHER DIRECTIONS**

- Before introducing the Think-Write-Pair-Share strategy to students, develop a set of questions or prompts that target key concepts related to the video.

- Describe the strategy and its purpose with your students, and provide guidelines/question(s) for the discussions that will take place related to the video.

- **Think and Write:** Begin by asking a specific higher-level question about the video or topic/problem for the students to discuss. Have the students think for a given amount of time (usually 1–3 minutes) and then write for a given amount of time (usually another 1–3 minutes).

- **Pair:** Pair each student with a partner either by choice or assignment. Have them discuss their thinking with their partners for a given amount of time (usually 2–5 minutes). Remember to be sensitive to learners’ needs (reading skills, attention skills, language skills) when creating pairs.

- **Share:** Once partners have had ample time to share their thoughts and have a discussion, expand the “share” to a whole-class discussion. After the class “share,” you may choose to have pairs reconvene to talk about how their thinking perhaps changed as a result of the “share” element.

- Using this strategy prior to showing the video gives you the opportunity to adjust your instruction based on students sharing about what they already know.

**STUDENT DIRECTIONS**

- Think for 2 minutes about what you already know or have learned about the topic/problem for 2 minutes and then take another 3 minutes to write those thoughts for later reference.

- **Pair** with a partner as directed by your teacher. With your partner, discuss your thinking and ask questions of your partner about their thoughts on the topic for 5 minutes.

- Select the partner who will present your pair’s thoughts, ideas, and questions to the rest of the class. After you share with the class, talk about how your thinking has changed in relation to solving the problem and your own future path related to college and future professions.
Think-Write-Pair-Share | Student Template

Before watching the video:

1 **Think** individually about the topic/problem that will be posed as well as your teacher’s questions and possible answers or thoughts.

2 **Write** those thoughts and answers below in the boxes on the left.

3 **Pair** with a partner and discuss the topic/problem and record your partner’s thoughts.

4 **Share** your thoughts, questions, and ideas with the rest of the class. Think about how your thoughts have changed as the result of the “class share.”

### MY OWN THINKING

- What problems do you predict will be shared in the Spark 101 video related to this topic?

### MY PARTNER’S THOUGHTS

- What are some questions you hope will be discussed in the Spark 101 video related to what you already know about the topic?