



Student Tasks:

- Reflect on understanding and choose a corner that represents a viewpoint.
- Move to the chosen corner with classmates.
- Discuss reasoning and share examples with peers.
- Listen to different perspectives and consider their viewpoints.
- If answers change based on discussions, move to the corner that now fits the response.
- Participate in the class discussion to enhance understanding.

Online ThinkCERCA Resources

- Complex texts with “Check” questions
- Tools for scaffolding reading (focus mode, translation, picture dictionary, online glossary, audio support, syllabication, part of speech, etc.)

4 Corners

Using movement and dialogue to gauge understanding and perspectives

Suggested Time: 15-20 minutes

Strategy

The 4 Corners strategy enables teachers to quickly assess students' understanding of a topic by having them physically move to different corners of the room based on their responses to a posed question. This interactive approach encourages active participation and fosters discussion among students, allowing them to articulate their understanding and engage with diverse viewpoints.

Optimal Application Notes

This strategy can be applied to a variety of assessment contexts, including formative assessments, opinion polls, or comprehension checks. Teachers should prepare clear questions and options beforehand to facilitate meaningful discussions.

Before:

- Prepare a question related to the lesson that has multiple answer choices or use the multiple choice questions in the “Check” section.
- Clearly label each corner of the room with the corresponding responses. For multiple choice - A, B, C, D.
- To check for understanding of a general concept you might ask, “How well do you understand this concept?” with options like “Completely Understand,” “Mostly Understand,” “Somewhat Understand,” and “Do Not Understand.”
- Ensure students understand the purpose of the activity and the expectations for discussing their choices.

During:

- Pose the assessment question to the class and give students time to think about their answers.
- Instruct students to move to the corner that reflects their understanding.
- Once in their corners, have students discuss their reasoning with classmates, encouraging them to share specific examples or explanations that led to their choice.
- After a few minutes, bring the class back together and ask representatives from each corner to summarize their discussions.
- Allow students to change corners if their answers shift after hearing the reasoning of others. Ask students to explain their reasons for moving to a different corner.

After:

- Facilitate a whole-class discussion where students can share insights and reflect on the different levels of understanding.