



Click on image for editable template.
See slides 3-6 for discipline-specific prompt examples.

Student Tasks:

- Move to pairs or small groups
- Complete the Think-Pair-Share Note-taking tool
- Large group share out

Online ThinkCERCA Modules:

- This activity can be used with virtually any prompt.
- ThinkCERCA's Close Reading and Writing modules always contain a Connect step, which is a great place to use this activity.
- Additional Reading Practices always contain a discussion prompt that can serve as the T-P-S stimulus.

Think-Pair-Share

Build relationships, knowledge, and engagement through sharing responses to a prompt.

Suggested Time: 10 minutes

Rationale/Research Base

Asking students to respond to stimuli and share their initial thoughts with a peer prior to a larger group discussion is an important way for students to build confidence and deepen understanding. Also, this practice helps students develop peer relationships and increase their engagement.

Optimal Application Notes:

Identify an occasion for a Think-Pair-Share. The beginning of a class session or unit is a great time to set the stage for deeper learning. Have students write a response. Then, pair them with a peer to share their responses.

Before:

- Familiarize yourself with the stimulus and protocol.
- See slides 3-6 for discipline-specific prompt examples or create your own with template, slide 2.
- Let students know that this activity will help them deepen their understanding of the lesson/unit.
- Remind students that they should handle with care and respect what their peers share in small groups.

During:

- Present the stimulus.
- Give students 3-5 minutes to individually complete the Connect online or respond to another prompt.
- Move students into pairs to share what they feel comfortable sharing.

After:

- Have students debrief in small or large groups to share collective findings, taking notes as they discuss.
- Ask students to circle, underline, or write down their most salient takeaway from the shared ideas.

Scaffolds & Supports:

- Give students sentence frames for their written responses. .
- Provide students with bilingual glossaries, alternate versions of the task, options for recording responses, etc.

Think-Pair-Share

Make a Connection

Instructions: Respond to the question or prompt posed.

1. **Think:** After reading about the topic, respond to the question/prompt on your own.
2. **Pair & Share:** With a partner, group, or a trusted listener, share the parts of your response that you feel comfortable sharing.
3. **Reflect:** If time permits, reflect on your experience. What ideas did others share that you hadn't considered? How were your ideas alike?
4. **Find Your Purpose:** What more would you like to learn about this topic?

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English Language Arts Example: *Describe a time when you visited a place that made you feel at home. What was it about the setting and the people in it that made you feel like you belonged there?*

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Social Studies Example: *Describe a time you experienced or observed an injustice. Describe the moment in as much detail as possible. Then, reflect on what was unjust and how the situation should have been handled justly.*

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Science Example: *If someone were traveling in a pick up truck, jumping on a mattress in the bed of the truck, how can the person continue to jump up and down on the mattress?*

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Math Example: *Is it better to solve problems with greater certainty or greater speed in math?*