

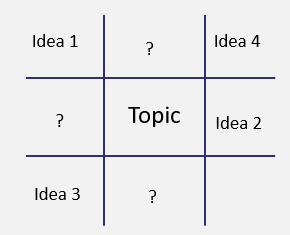
**Think and Go Higher**

Session Toolkit

**Session 1: Go Connect**

**This first session helped you make connections between knowledge, think creatively and justify your decisions.**

**Top Tip – Lotus Blossom Diagram**

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In the eight open boxes around the outside of your topic, write down eight different things you associate with that topic, or anything that comes to mind.

**This can be used to help you with revision and answering exam questions:**

* When writing an essay or an answer to a question, use the lotus blossom to organise your knowledge.
* Then you can use the words you have generated as the basis for your answer.

**Session 2: Go Analyse**

**This second session helped you to analyse a situation or topic, and begin to think critically by asking interrogating questions.**

**Top Tip – Interrogating Questions**

**What?**

**Why?**

**Could?**

**How?**

**Where?**

**Who?**

**When?**

Apply these interrogating questions to any situation or decision you experience in life. This will help you think critically, make more informed choices and problem solve more effectively.

**These questions can be used to help you gather evidence and think critically about a topic.**

* You can apply this to both in-school study and everyday life, e.g. buying a new phone.
* Additionally, you can use evaluative questions (e.g. ‘could’) to analyse the topic more deeply and even come up with a solution. This is called problem-solving.

**Session 3: Go Debate**

**This third session helped you to understand the do’s and don’ts of debating, and how to structure an argument.**

**Top Tip – Yes, But, Because**

This structure can be applied to any debate topic. For this example, imagine that somebody has made the statement ‘apples are better than oranges’.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Structure** | **Explanation** | **Example** |
| **Yes** | **Acknowledge** your opponent’s point and the argument they have made for or against the statement. | **Yes**, I understand that you think apples are better than oranges… |
| **But** | State your own **point**. | **But**, I disagree with that statement as I actually think oranges are better than apples. |
| **Because** | **Explain** your point. | I think this **because** oranges contain high levels of vitamin C which is extremely good for you. |

* The idea is that by supporting your point with evidence, you can persuade your opponent to agree with you, or in other words, win the argument.
* Having good debating skills makes you a better public speaker, critical thinker and presenter.

**Session 4: Go Collaborate**

**This fourth session helped you help you to collaborate effectively with your peers, share your ideas and opinions, and reciprocate to reach a mutual conclusion.**

**Top Tip – Do’s and Don’ts of Effective Collaboration**

**Collaboration is the action of working with other people to produce something or achieve a common goal.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Do’s** | **Don’ts** |
| Listen to other people’s ideas | Ignore other people’s ideas |
| Contribute your own ideas | Be afraid to put forward your own ideas |
| Be willing to learn from others | Assume that your ideas are always right |
| Accept when others don’t agree with you | Take it personally if others don’t agree with you |

**As well as being a key skill that employers look for in job applicants, good team working skills provide the following benefits:**

* Good teamwork leads to you learning new skills from each other.
* Good teamwork can improve efficiency and productivity.
* Good teamwork ensures good communication and strong work relationships.
* Good teamwork brings an expanded sense of accomplishment and job satisfaction.

**Session 5: Go Present**

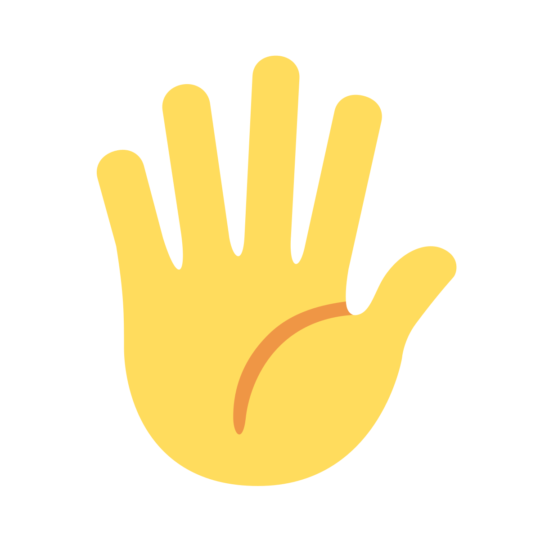
**This fifth session helped you to analyse presentations to identify positives and negatives, understand the key aspects of presenting and develop your own presentation skills.**

**Top Tip – 5 Tips to Become a Great Presenter**

**Vocals**

**Movement**

**Eye Contact**



**Body Language**

**Planning**

**Use these tips to improve your public speaking and presenting skills:**

**Body language** – Be relaxed and open.

**Eye contact** – Vary your eye contact from person to person at natural pauses (ends of sentences/pauses for breath), don’t look at the floor.

**Movement** – Keep your feet planted in relaxed position, keep your arms and hands still other than when using appropriate hand gestures

**Vocals** – Speak Clearly at an appropriate pace. Ensure you project your voice and emphasise key points.

**Planning** – Think about how you will introduce what you will say, the key points to make, how you will end. Maybe even make some notes to help you.