

Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence

Lecture/Discussion Facilitation Template

The attached template was distributed at the 2017 Lilly Evidence-based Teaching & Learning Conference held in Bethesda, MD June 1 - 4, 2017. Use it during lectures as a low-stakes, largely anonymous method to gauge students' understanding, as a pop quiz or survey, or to keep track of in-class group activities. The template can improve student participation and engagement by minimizing their fears of low (or even "too high") performance before their classmates, and it provides a *demonstrable*, *measurable*, *observable*, *and active* way to gain a sense of how well students are "getting it," beyond the glint in their eyes.

Before class

- 1. Print template (next page) in color on white or light-colored paper.
- 2. Cut in half to achieve two templates.
- 3. Give each student or each group a template.

In class

- 1. With the template facing out, have students fold it in half horizontally and again vertically, so that they can display only one of the symbols at a time by holding it up or propping it up on their desks.
- 2. Explain what you want the symbols to mean before each use.

Symbols	Possible Meanings	
	"I/we got it! Move on to the next concept!"	
	"I'm/we're confident I/we know the answer."	
	"I'm/we're ready to answer!"	
	"I'm/we're finished with the assigned task."	
	True	
	Option A	
	"I/we don't get it. Please explain again."	
	"I'm/we're confident that I/we DON'T know the answer."	
	"I/we can't answer the question."	
	"I'm/we're still working on the assigned task."	
	False	
	Option B	
	"I/we think I've got it, but I/we could use another example."	
	"I/we might have the answer, but I'm/we're not sure."	
	"I'm/we're willing to try to answer."	
	"I'm/we're nearly finished with the assigned task."	
	Unsure	
	Option C	
	"I/we have a question."	
	"I/we have something important to add to the conversation."	
	"I/we have a big idea to share with the class."	
	"I'm/we're confused."	
	Option D	



