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WRITING

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Inquiry

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Quickwrites

Have students write to a prompt for between 3 to 5 minutes. Prompts can be used to introduce a new topic, access prior knowledge on a subject, or as a reflection at end of a lesson.

Compare

Have students spend time comparing two critical concepts/ideas from a day's lesson.

Icebreaker or Teambuilder

Have participate in a quick icebreaker or teambuilder to build relational capacity.

For ideas on Icebreakers or Teambuilders see Chapter 1 of the Critical Thinking and Engagement Book

To download go to goo.gl/9tnwhN

Check or Reference Agendas/Planners

During the week support students in using planners to record homework and projects.



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Identify Key Terms

Have students preread a text and identify key terms

Learning Log

Have students reflect on their learning (either at the end of a lesson or end of the week) using a learning log.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/KF6BC2

Collaborative Study Groups (CSGs)

Have students spend time during your content classes doing a Collaborative Study Group (CSG).

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/XRx0Pf

Jigsaw

Conduct a Jigsaw, where a task (or problems) are broken into parts. Each group member is assigned a part. After completing their portion of the task they share the information back with the rest of their group.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/fufE1r



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Binder Checks

Have students conduct a quick partner binder check to ensure that their binder is organized.

Marking the Text

Have students use a Marking the Text strategy. Remember that Marking the Text strategies can be used to analyze text or review their Cornell Notes.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/xtvdWZ

Sentence Frames

Use sentence frames to have students reflect/review their learning. Remember to keep the sentence frames open ended to ensure it can be used repeatedly.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/13U8c3

Socratic Seminar

Conduct a Socratic Seminar on a topic related to the unit of study.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/fzllhK



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Carousel Brainstorm

Have students spend time during your content classes doing a Carousel Brainstorm.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/eUC3Eb

For a video go to goo.gl/6qop0t

Backwards Mapping

Have students take a major task (large project or massive test), and plan how they will break that task into smaller tasks.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/CDY6E2

Charting the Text

Have students chart a text by mapping out what an author is saying and what the author is doing.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/iBWr5K

KWLA

Conduct a KWLA where students start by writing what they Know about a topic, and anything they Want to know. After the lesson have students write what they Learned, and how they will Apply that learning.



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Contrast

Have students spend time analyzing differences on two major themes or aspects of a lesson(s).

1-1-2

Have students do a 1-1-2. Students partner up. One person starts by talking about a question (or topic) that has been posed for 1 minute. After 1 minute have the other partner talk about their understanding. End by giving 2 minutes of free discussion

Share Time

Management Tips

Spend a few minutes discussing common difficulties about managing time. Have students brainstorm how they manage time effectively. Have students commit to trying one new idea this week.

Summarize Text

Have students spend time summarize a piece of reading



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One Pager

Have students write to a prompt for between 3 to 5 minutes. Prompts can be used to introduce a new topic, access prior knowledge on a subject, or as a reflection at end of a lesson.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/mYo6qp

Apply

Have students spend time applying their learning onto real world situations.

Team Huddle

Have all students stand up, play music and have students dance around the class. When you stop the music, call out, “Huddle #” (i.e. Huddle 2, Huddle 4).

Provide prompts for students to discuss.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/tGFXta

Barriers to Time Usage

Have student reflect on their usage of time, what barriers get in the way of effective time usage.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/Ff5vCE



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Writing in the Margins

Have students utilize one of the six writing in the margin strategies (Visualize, clarify, respond, summarize, connect, question).

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/p3UNSX

Timed Writing

Have students practice writing to a prompt under a timed writing situation.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/QcK8uw

Philosophical Chairs

Have students participate in a Philosophical Chairs discussion.

For more information on this strategy download the **Critical Thinking and Engagement** book, and review chapter 4: Inquiry. Go to the link goo.gl/9tnwhN

Line Ups/Conga Line

Conduct a line up, where students face a partner in two lines. Ask students to discuss a topic then rotate the line. For a bonus point, play conga music and have students dance to the end of the line.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/JoHVGE



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Sequence Graphic Organizer

Have students utilize a sequencing graphic organizer to outline a critical process being taught.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/G4Jb5X

Connect Ideas

Have students respond to a text by making connections to themselves, the text, or the world.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/Qy6wcW

DLIQ

Have students write a DLIQ (What did I Do, What did I Learn, What did I find Interesting, What Questions do I have)

Higher Level Essential Questions

As the teacher, write an essential question that drives students to deeper levels of thinking. Crafting level 2 or 3 essential questions will encourage students to Compare, classify, hypothesize, or analyze concepts.



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Think-Pair-Share

Have students think about a question/topic, pair with a partner to discuss, and then share out with the entire class select responses.

For a bonus point, include a Think-pair-share-squared. Were students partner and discuss, then form a group of 4 to discuss again.

Utilize a Graphic Organizer

Select one type of graphic organizer to integrate into your classroom this week.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/YQ2eDX

Word Wall

Have a student generated word wall.

Word Bank

Create a list of possible words that students can use in some type of written response (i.e. Quickwrite, Summary, etc.)



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Classify, Criticize, or Distinguish

Have students spend time classifying, criticizing or distinguishing concepts.

Numbered Heads

Have students form random groups of 3 to 5. Tell students to number from 1 to the highest number (i.e. Groups of 4 would number 1 to 4). Give students a topic to discuss. At the end call a random group and a random #, that person reports out on the conversation.

Incorporate methods of planner usage

Encourage students to use planners, through incorporating some of the 10 ways to support planner usage.

For more information on this strategy go to goo.gl/uc28ad

Call and Response

Implement a call and response to gain students attention.

For more information on this strategy go to the video on goo.gl/Ca7eau