TESOL Working Paper Series

5.	Following the rotation order isee Figure 5% groups pass their handout to the neut group.

Figure #
Long Version Rotation Order



Short Version (45 to 50 minutes)

The class is divided into nine groups !group si.e may vary depending on class si.e". ach group receives a copy of the handout with a different discussion topic !see Figure A". For the short version%use only three different topics.

- /. Students tal\$ in their groups and decide on what opinion and argument to write in the given space.
- 5. Following the rotation order !see Figure 4"%groups pass their handout to the ne0t group. Now%students focus on the topic and argument written #y the original group. They analy. e the topic and the original group%s argument. Then%they discuss and write if they agree or disagree with the previous group%s opinion.
- A. fter two rotations%each handout is returned to the original group. Now%each group reads the other groups arguments and come up with re#uttals !if they disagree" or new ideas !if they agree" to further the discussion. The original group focuses on what the other groups wrote and replies directly to them in the given space%such as BCroup 5% that%s a good idea%#ut you forgot a#out...D
- 4. 3assing the handout around again%groups can now read what the original groups wrote in response to their arguments and can choose to \$eep the discussion going !as long as there is enough #lan\$ space on the handout or time".
- Ence the paper returns to the original group !after two more rotations" they can evaluate if their opinion has changed or if it remains the same and what top three arguments were given #y the other groups.

Figure \$ S őrt Version Silent Debate Hando t .ór St dents

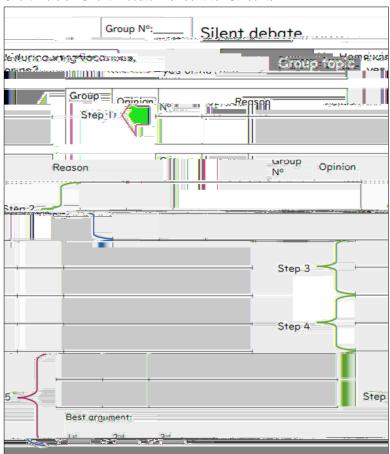


Figure % S őrt Version Rotation Order



Conclusion

-s this activity reGuires students to read and write% it can ta\$e more time than e0pected. However%#ecause it does not reGuire them to spea\$ without much time to thin\$% it is very helpful for Guieter students to have a chance to share their opinions. , epending on the students% level% discussions within each group can #e carried out in either nglish or the H/% as long as the writing is done in nglish.

This activity can #e carried out in one or two lessons% also depending on the level of students. (t can wor\$ as a stepping stone to prepare students for a more formal oral de#ate. (have not #een a#le to try the long version properly% #ut the short version wor\$ed very well. Students were engaged and en'oyed rea! P&F