Lecture Busters

Short in-class activities to benefit student learning and provide feedback to the instructor

Activities

Think – Pair – Share
1. Instructor states an open-ended question
2. Individual students spent a minute or two to writing a response
3. Students then turn to a partner to discuss their responses
4. The instructor reconvenes the class and calls on individual students to share the pair’s responses

One minute papers
1. At the end of class or just before a break, the instructor poses one of these questions:
   - What are the two most important points from today’s session?
   - What were the two muddiest points from today’s session?
2. Students are given 2 minutes to write brief responses
3. Student responses are turned in anonymously as they leave
4. Instructor addresses student responses either during the next class or online

Sample questions and prompts

Student generated test questions
Ask students to create a question based on materials presented in class today/this week

Sketch
Ask students to quickly sketch and label a flow chart or process

One-sentence summary
Students summarize knowledge of a topic by constructing a single sentence that answers the questions "Who does what to whom, when, where, how, and why?" to select only the defining features of an idea

Instructor mistake
Present an idea, drawing or statement and ask, “What is wrong with what I just wrote?”

Direct paraphrasing
Ask students to write a translation of what they just learned for a specific audience.

Next step
Ask for the next step in a procedure or solving a problem

Applications/ Examples
Ask for relevant real world examples or applications

Clickers
Can be used for
- Formative evaluation
- Summative evaluation
- Discussion starter
- Administrative (roll, course evaluation)
- Peer instruction

For more information, or to check out a kit, see http://trinity.duke.edu/technology/support?p=personal-response-systems-prs at Trinity College Technology Services
Or, try Poll Everywhere with students cell phones or computers: http://www.pollev everywhere.com/

References


