



An introduction to Poll Everywhere activities

For higher education

Competitions

Energize any class

Competitions lets you create your own trivia contest in minutes. Students earn points for answering questions quickly and correctly, and an animated leaderboard between questions shows everyone who is in the lead. A colorful burst of confetti celebrates the winner at the end.

Examples

- Let's review Chapter 4
- How well do you know literature trivia?
- Two Truths and a Lie: Get to know your classmates



Multiple choice activity

Fast, formative assessment

Deploy a multiple choice activity every 10-15 minutes to bring attention back to the topic at hand. It provides an instant snapshot of learning, and alerts the instructor when further explanation is required.

One-minute attendance

Multiple choice activities make it easy to take attendance. Designate the correct response, perhaps a word of the day, and allow thirty seconds for students to tap their answers.



Word cloud

Gauge the impact

Before-and-after activity: Begin with a word cloud activity to collect student impressions of a topic. End with the same word cloud activity to learn how much those impressions have changed in the course of discussion.

Sentiment check

A word cloud is the fastest way to identify prevailing attitudes and opinions about a topic. It can also be used to gradually reach a consensusthe most used word grows larger as discussion continues.



Prioritize questions and ideas

The Q&A activity combines an open response question with upvoting and downvoting. Students submit questions or ideas, then rank the questions and ideas others submit.

In less than a minute, the instructor can identify top-ranked responses. Because there is no hand-raising, students can ask questions or posit ideas without fear of embarrassment.

Mock leadership panel Q&A

Assign a group of students to play the role of subject matter experts or world leaders. Encourage the remaining students to question them using a class ranked Q&A activity.



Clickable image

Map answers on a spectrum

When the answer lies somewhere between A and B, a clickable image gives students the freedom to plot their answer anywhere on a continuum. The instructor can upload a grid, number line, x-y axis, or any image to collect responses.

Practice medical diagnosis

Upload a diagnostic image and prompt students to pinpoint the abnormality on their own devices. The clickable image activity allows the instructor to designate correct and incorrect click regions.



Open-ended

Keep an open backchannel

Leave an open-ended activity running in the background, so students can quietly raise questions and comments without interrupting the flow of instruction.

Instructors typically receive more questions, and more honest questions, through a semi anonymous backchannel than they receive through hand-raising.

Hold a silent discussion

Give students the prompt or question to discuss, then watch their responses appear together on the screen. As they see the ideas populate, students often become emboldened to speak out loud, when they would otherwise keep silent.

"Do we need pri less than a minute ago	nary source material for th	ne essay on this, consi	dering how little is avai	lable this time?"	
"I'm not sure I ge less than a minute ago	t the difference between t	otalitarian and authori	tarian."		
"How is democra less than a minute ago	cy any different when you	look at how it plays o	ut in places like Russia	?"	
"What's the diffe less than a minute ago	ence between totalitarian	and authoritarian?"			
"I don't think you less than a minute ago	can really call the Khans o	dictators. They had an	empire, so that makes	them emperors, rig	nt?"

Rank order

Reorder ideas or topics

A rank order questions allows students to drag a set of options into the desired order. It can be used to rank options by preference, chronologically, by priority, or any order the instructor assigns.

Rank for impact

Ask students to evaluate cause and effect by ranking a list of forces or events by the magnitude of their impact on a culture, era, or historical movement.

