# **Timed Group Discussion**

In a group of 4-6 students, one individual gets two minutes to discuss a topic or respond to a series of questions, then another individual gets one minute to respond. Go around the group until each person has had a chance to speak and respond, except for one who is the notetaker. Small groups can be surprisingly dependent on structure, and with reluctant, quiet personalities, things can get awkward very fast without it. This actually goes a long way in getting them to talk.

At the end, the group can discuss what they want to share out with the class, and the notetaker will then speak on behalf of the group.

One thing to add in terms of structure is to ask students to read a text, and look for “strong lines,” and / or give them time to free write on a topic; they then share their “strong lines” or what they wrote with the group. As I mention above, I strongly recommend providing questions as well.