

Improve Student Understanding: A Teacher's Quick Guide

1. Chalk-Talk Reimagined

Objective: Ensure inclusivity in traditional lecture-style teaching.

Strategy: Clarify and summarise key points. Make sure to spell things out for the least confident students to bridge understanding gaps.

2. Structured Teamwork

Objective: Maximise learning in group activities.

Strategy: Announce that each group will have a representative who will summarize the task at the end. Assign specific sub-tasks to individual members to ensure everyone contributes.

3. Levelling the Playing Field

Objective: Cater to mixed abilities within the classroom.

Strategy: Utilise tiered problem sets with incremental challenges. Ensure all students reach a foundational level of understanding before moving on to independent tasks.

4. Balanced Peer Teaching

Objective: Make peer-to-peer teaching beneficial for both parties.

Strategy: Integrate checks for understanding and require active engagement from the listening students. Allow opportunities for all to present.

5. Structured Creativity

Objective: Use open-ended tasks effectively.

Strategy: Use these tasks sparingly and support them with scaffolds and worked examples. Provide all necessary resources to enable successful completion.