

## RETRIEVAL PRACTICE TECHNIQUES



1. Pause the lesson or activity.	1. Ask a question.
Pause the lesson or activity.	
I	2. THINK: Students think about it.
2. Ask students to write down everything they can	3. PAIR: Then talk in pairs.
remember from the lesson so far/ about the	4. SHARE: Then share in an open discussion.
topic. Give a time limit. No sneak peeks!	
8. Continue your lesson or activity.	VARIATIONS:
4. At some point, have students review/upgrade	THINK: Ask students to write down their
their notes.	response.
	• SHARE: After writing down their response,
ARIATIONS:	students swap notes to add to each other's
• Ask students to write down what they can	responses. Then, they discuss their notes in
remember from yesterday / last week.	pairs.
• Give students a minute or two to discuss in pairs	• SHARE: Have two pairs get together for think-
how what they've written down is similar or	pair-square in groups of four.
different .	• SHARE: Before the share stage, students listen
• Use it as a lesson starter.	to/read a text to discover the answers. Then
	they compare ideas open-class.
<b>FWO THINGS</b>	RETRIEVE-TAKING
Pause the lesson and ask students to write	Note-taking with a retrieval boost.
down <b>two things</b> :	1. Ask students to read a text/watch a
they've learned so far today	video/participate in a part of a lesson
• they learned yesterday (or last week)	without taking notes (not yet!).
• that are their main takeaways from today	2. Then make a pause during the lesson (e.g. ask
they'd like to learn more about	students to cover the text or pause the video)
·	so students can write down what they
You can also ask about <b>two ways</b> today's topic	remember (two things, everything, anything! –
relates to previous topics.	your call). No sneak peeks!
No sneak peeks! Short and efficient with everybody	3. Continue with the lesson. Later, have students
etrieving and involved.	review/upgrade their notes.

- 1. Students stand on one side of the room.
- 2. TASK: Ask a question/set a task to review a language point. Students silently try to bring that information to mind.
- 3. SELF-ASSESS: Students self-assess how much they remember and find a place that would represent that still in silence. One side of the room is "remember a lot," the centre of the room is "remember something," and the opposite side of the room is "can't remember anything.".
- 4. CLOSE PAIRS: Students get into pairs with someone closest to them and share what they know (or make a guess) about the concept for a minute or two.
- 5. DISTANT PAIRS: Students now change pairs to talk with a person as far away from them as possible to share what they know and teach each other (another minute or two).
- 6. REFLECT:
- Students who couldn't remember anything in the beginning share what they learned with the class.
- Students who could remember a lot share if there were any common misunderstandings they noticed.

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