



## GROWING GROUPS

Purpose	<p><i>Growing Groups</i> can help break down and organize a complex task, especially in large classes. It enables participants to get to know each other in smaller groups and helps pool individual results.</p>
Directions	<p>During the first stage, students work on a preliminary question or task and take notes individually. Then, in a second round, they exchange their ideas with a partner; both similarities and differences in opinion can be discussed. In a third step, two pairs form groups of four, each and either condense or expand on aspects of the topic at hand. In a final step, the groups present their conclusions and the whole class discusses the relevant points.</p>
Parameters	<p>Group size: 30 people max. Time required: at least 30 min. Setup: flexible Materials: depending on the task, materials for presenting results visually</p>
Helpful Tips	<p>Sufficient time should be allotted for each phase to ensure that the discussions in the next round are rich (and thus productive) enough, i.e. that they further the previous conversation. It can also be helpful to highlight to participants that they do not need to agree as they move through each stage. Asking students to present their conclusions or final points visually can lead to a more focused and engaged discussion.</p>
Digitale Umsetzung	<p>— via the breakout rooms function in <a href="#">heiCONF</a></p>

Adapted from:

Knöll, J. (1999). *Kurs- und Seminarmethoden ein Trainingsbuch zur Gestaltung von Kursen und Seminaren, Arbeits- und Gesprächskreisen* (8th ed.). Weinheim: Beltz Verlag.



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