



PARTNER INTERVIEW

Purpose	Participants get to know each other in pairs first and (if the technique is used repeatedly) then gradually get to know the larger group. They learn to cooperate with different people and their various approaches, including diverse ways of learning, and develop ways to engage with differing opinions, ideas, and social constructs.
Directions	<p>For this type of interview, two students join together in conversation. Pairs are formed randomly, to avoid having only pairs of students who already know each other or are seated next to one another. The peer conversation is guided by a clear and concrete task or prompt.</p> <p>The interview partners receive concrete questions to ask each other as an introduction to a workshop, a specific topic, or a thematic unit and are instructed to exchange and reflect on their ideas. In a subsequent step, all pairs briefly present their main points to the whole group.</p>
Parameters	<p>Group size: up to about 16 people (In classes with an odd number of students, the instructor can participate as a conversation partner. In larger groups, interview pairs are possible, but it is not advisable to have every pair present their results to the whole group (listening fatigue, too much information, too much time required). It would, however, be possible to present the conclusions of each pair in subsequent smaller groups, e.g. with 3-4 pairs in each small group.)</p> <p>Time required: 10-15min. for work in pairs, 30-45min. for subsequent discussion round with the whole group</p> <p>Setup: ideally a larger room with moveable chairs</p> <p>Materials: written prompt with questions for each interview pair</p>
Helpful Tips	<p>Possible Variant:</p> <p>The main aspects of a previously discussed topic can be reviewed in interview pairs; a written prompt provides the specific questions to be answered or discussed. To ensure that participants remain within the intended framework and can check each other's responses, sample answers are included in the prompt. The student questioned first answers the interviewer's question; then the interviewer can expand on the answer, correct potential misunderstandings, or discuss certain aspects further. After one question has been discussed, interviewer and interviewee switch roles and proceed to the next question.</p>
Online Implementation	— via breakout rooms in heiCONF

Adapted from:
Knoll, 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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