

# NO-HAND RESPONSES

Most traditional questioning techniques allow students to hide. "No-hand responses" is a method of calling on students that keeps them engaged.

1. Teach your students that from now on when you ask a question hands are to remain down unless you say, "I'll take a hand on this." Be patient when you teach this procedure. Your students have been conditioned to raise their hands.
2. Ask a question. (When students raise their hands, simply give them a palm down sign to remind them not to do so.)
3. Give class three to five seconds of "think time."
4. Randomly call on a student.
5. Give three to five seconds of individual "think time."
6. If they do not know the answer, either coach them or tell them that you may come back to them later.
7. Ask another student. If they do not know it, do the same as you did for the first one.
8. If after two or three students, you still do not receive a correct response, say, "I will take a hand on this." (If only two or three hands go up, it may be time to reteach.)
9. After the correct answer is given, go back to those who did not know the answer and ask them to repeat it.

Reserve some of your free response questions (those without a specific answer like: "What do you think life would be like if we had no laws?") for the students who struggle in your class.

The sole purpose of this questioning technique is to raise student achievement by keeping them engaged. Be considerate. Students should not feel anxiety every time you begin questioning and discussion.