The Minute Paper

ITaLI

WHAT IS IT?

The Minute Paper is designed to take a minute to complete. It is commonly used at the end of class to diagnose students' understanding of key concepts or topics, but can also be used throughout the lecture. Typically, the Minute Paper will ask the students to identify what they found most useful and what they found most challenging to help identify if further support is needed. Results of the student responses can be discussed before or at the start of the next class as group feedback, and strategies can be offered for remediation if needed.

WHY USE IT?

• Helps identify student misconceptions early instead of at the end of semester.

• Provides an opportunity for you to deliver additional resources or support in a timely way.

• Lets students know that you are invested in their learning needs.

HOW DO I DO IT?

1. Let students know in advance that they may be asked to write a Minute Paper at various times throughout the course and provide instructions.

2. Stop the lecture at a given point and provide the Minute Paper with the following questions:

   • What are the (2-5) most significant (central, useful, meaningful, surprising, disturbing) things you have learned during the session?

   • What questions remain uppermost in your mind about the concept/ topic?

3. Students submit their answers using whatever format you have chosen. For small classes, paper format can be used. For larger classes it may be easier to collect answers using digital tools (see technologies below).

4. If you wish to include participation as a course hurdle, provide a means for all students to submit in a given timeframe before the next lecture.

5. Provide feedback for students before the next lecture.

🖥 WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER?

- Use Minute Paper student responses to inform what you may need to revise in the next lecture or session.

- Provide a summary of responses as feedback and discuss this with the class.

- Set an online activity using a blog or discussion tool for students to answer separately what they found most useful, and what they found challenging. Encourage them to comment on each other's posts.

📝 WHAT COULD I USE?

- Paper
- Pens / pencils

Digital tools are useful to capture and manage student responses and can be particularly useful for large classes.

UQ TOOLS:

- Blog tool in UQ Learn

OTHER TOOLS:

- Padlet
- Piazza

🖥 WHAT IF I WANT MORE?

- The Minute Paper - Bruce Palmquist, CWU [video 5:05]

- Classroom Assessment Techniques: Minute paper - University of New Mexico

- One Minute Paper - University of Glasgow

- Classroom Assesment Techniques - Vanderbilt University

👥 WHAT IF I NEED SUPPORT?

For further support contact ITaLI TeachAssist