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Rotating RACE

By: Whitney Gordon Special Education and English teacher; Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership, Thomas University, GA

Language Arts
Grades 6-8



Learning Objectives

Students will support a claim with relevant evidence. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.1)

Materials Needed

- · Large paper with tape or post-its posters.
- · Constructed response prompts with supporting sources.

Introduction

Students will practice the RACE strategy for answering constructed response questions through an activity that involves collaboration and movement.

Procedure

- 1. Prior to completing this activity, students should learn and practice the RACE strategy. <u>Here is a video</u> that you can use to teach the strategy.
- 2. Set up stations around the room that include the following. You will need enough stations to separate students into groups of no more than three.
 - · A large piece of paper or post-its poster with a writing prompt written on it, stuck to the wall.
 - \cdot A source to support the writing prompt.
- 3. Have each group start at a station. Ask the students to work together to read the prompt and answer using the "R" (Restate the question) portion of the RACE strategy only.
- 4. Have students rotate to the next station. Have the students read the prompt and add the "A" portion of the RACE strategy to the "R" portion that the previous group supplied.
- 5. Have students rotate 2 more times, asking them to add the "C" and "E" portions of the paragraph to the answers previous groups provided. Students must cite evidence from the source you provided.
- 6. After rotating for R, A, C, and E, have the students return to their original station. Tell students to revise and rewrite the resulting paragraph for submission.
- 7. Tips to make this activity run smoothly:
 - \cdot Do not reinvent the wheel. Using prompts and sources that students have already seen is perfectly okay.

Continued on page 2



Lesson Plan

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Continued from page 1

- Keep sources brief: poems, excerpts or passages from texts, etc.
- You only need to create a few (3-4) unique stations. You can duplicate these stations to make as many as you need
- Have the students rotate in pairs or groups of three.

Evaluation

Use the rubric on page two of this document to evaluate the resulting RACE paragraphs.

