

## Activity. Questioning strategies

The table shows five scenarios describing typical situations learning environments.

Following the table is a list of strategies for dealing with situations.

- Match an appropriate strategy to the scenario. There may be more than one strategy for each scenario.
- When you have finished, you can compare your answers with those on the answer sheet.
- Discuss and explain your answers with a colleague, or record your answers and reasoning.

Scenario.	Strategy (numbers)
A. One member of the group always answers first whenever a question is asked.	
B. A small group of learners at the back of the class are not engaging with the questions you are asking.	
C. You need to check the learners, understanding of a subject.	
D. You need to build the confidence and self-esteem of a learner.	
E. You want to check how learners will use their new knowledge in the work placement.	

### Strategies

1. Ask learners individually to complete a work-based project which involves them in applying their knowledge. Then ask them to share their work with the group. You can test their knowledge with focused questions.
2. Ask learners specific questions to assess their knowledge. This can be done as a group activity, with teams, or with individuals if necessary.
3. Ask related questions, using questions and cue language which helps identify the skill level of the learners.
4. Ask learners to work in small groups, and get them to feed back and share answers

5. Avoid putting the learner in a vulnerable position by asking him or her a direct question in front of the group.
6. Identify specific people to answer the question.
7. Question a member of the group specifically.
8. Rearrange the room to split the learners into new groups.
9. Use a different technique, for example, using activities with a more visual appeal to engage the learners.
10. Use group discussion to encourage participation, and share feedback between the groups.

**Questioning techniques.**

**Activity answers.**

<b>Scenario</b>	<b>Strategy numbers</b>
A. One member of the group always answers first whenever a question is asked.	4,6
B. A small group of learners at the back of the room are not engaging with the questions you are asking.	6,8,9
C. You need to check the learners' understanding of a subject.	2,3
D. You need to build the confidence and self-esteem of a learner.	5,10
E. You want to check how learners will use their new knowledge in the workplace.	1