**Plus/Minus/Interesting (PMI) Strategy**

**What is it?**
Plus/Minus/Interesting (PMI) is a lateral and creative thinking strategy used in de Bono's CoRT Thinking Program.

**What is its purpose?**
PMI helps students learn to:
- see both sides of an argument
- view things from a different point of view
- think broadly about an issue
- suspend judgement
- make informed decisions
- work as individuals, in pairs or as members of a group.

**How can I do it?**
This strategy can be used within a range of classroom activities such as analysing texts or examining issues. Students are provided with a format for recording:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plus</th>
<th>Minus</th>
<th>Interesting</th>
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Individually, in pairs or small groups, they apply three questions to a statement or task provided by the teacher:
- What are the positive ideas about this?
- What are the negative ideas about this?
- What is interesting about this?

A recorder and reporter are appointed and within a specified time limit, students brainstorm their responses. At the end of the designated time, students report back on their most original/creative ideas from each of the categories.

It is useful to model the activity first, using a statement such as: “In the near future, global warming will lead to large-scale melting of the polar ice caps.”


Teachers Information - Wet Tropics Management Authority - Rainforest Explorer