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WHAT IS IT?

Software driven response systems have the capability to allow students to share their opinions. Often the voting question posed does not have a right or wrong answer, but enables the surfacing of various perspectives which can generate rich class discussion, particularly around questions about ethical, legal, or moral issues. Voting can also help students connect their personal experiences to more abstract concepts.

WHY USE IT?

- Voting can be used to pose questions to students and collect their answers for providing real-time information about student learning and/or opinions “on the fly”.
- Useful to check understanding on a topic or concept.
- Effective ice-breaker or discussion starter.
- Enables students to see how well they are doing in understanding a concept relative to the rest of the class.
- Enables students to connect new information with their current understanding, and compare their understanding with other possible responses.

WHAT COULD I USE?

- GoSoapBox
- NearPod
- Socrative

CONSIDERATIONS

- Be familiar with the technology prior to class and practice using a test-student account.
- Ensure the chosen voting software is web-based accessible across most device platforms i.e. iOS, Android and Windows.
- Ensure students are given clear instructions and support on how to use the voting tool of choice.
- Caution should be taken in the moderation of student responses prior to display.

HOW DO I DO IT?

Most systems allow for two methods of questioning or voting. The most common is a pre-created question that is typed into the software or a PowerPoint slide, for example, before class and asked at a predetermined time. The other method is to create a question “on the fly” during class. This offers flexibility and spontaneous creativity.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- [Exploring Benefits of Audience-Response Systems on Learning: A Review of the Literature](#)
- [Clickers and CATs: Using Learner Response Systems for Formative Assessments in the Classroom](#)
- [GoSoapBox Limited Implementation Report](#)