



### **Activity: Question Ping Pong**

**Materials needed:** None

**Description:** Groups of three students work together. Two students fire rapid-fire yes/no questions at each other, and one student referees.



Give students time to write twenty yes/no questions in any tense, on any topic related to their “ping-pong” partner. Students should also use some third-person questions about people in their partner’s life.

#### **Sample questions:**

*Were you late for school this morning?*

*Did you eat fish last night?*

*Are you going to work on Saturday?*

*Do you have a sister?*

*Have you ever slept in your car?*

*Does your father speak English?*

*Will your boss let you leave if you ask?*

*Can you ride a horse?*

*Would you lend me a dollar if I asked?*

The two game partners face each other from a few feet away. The referee stands on the side in-between them.

The first person “serves” a question. The second person responds with a short answer and immediately fires a question back. The first person responds and returns with his next question.

The referee has two important jobs. The first job is to keep a rhythm by clapping or banging a pencil on the desk. The beat should model the clipped pace the players have to use to fire off and respond to the questions. The ref’s second job is to pay close attention to errors. When the ref hears an error, he or she stops the game and asks for the question to be repeated. Finally, it’s the ref who finds a resolution for any disagreements.

Players also have the right to stop the action if they think their opponent has answered incorrectly, and the ref didn’t catch the error.

This game moves very quickly, and there should be time to reshuffle the triads, giving the referees a chance to be a player. During the second match, the questions will be more challenging as students try to stump each other.