

STUDENT TALK PROTOCOL DESCRIPTIONS (CONTINUED)

Purpose: To Elicit Student Argument from Evidence or Experience - Reaching Consensus

Discussion Diamond:

Setup: Each small group or table needs a copy of a graphic organizer that looks like the image to the right. Each student will write one of the triangular “corners” of the organizer.

1. The teacher poses a question that students can answer with data.
2. All students get three minutes to think and write their thoughts in their respective corner.
3. The students take turns explaining their ideas to each other (all students must share).
4. The students discuss what their consensus view might be and write their consensus view in the middle.

Notes: 1. This makes a good formative assessment artifact. 2. Coming to a consensus is really hard work and can be really emotional. Remind students that coming to a consensus is about arguing *about ideas*, not arguing *with people*. You might have to scaffold participation even further and hold class debriefs about how the argument process itself went for different groups.

