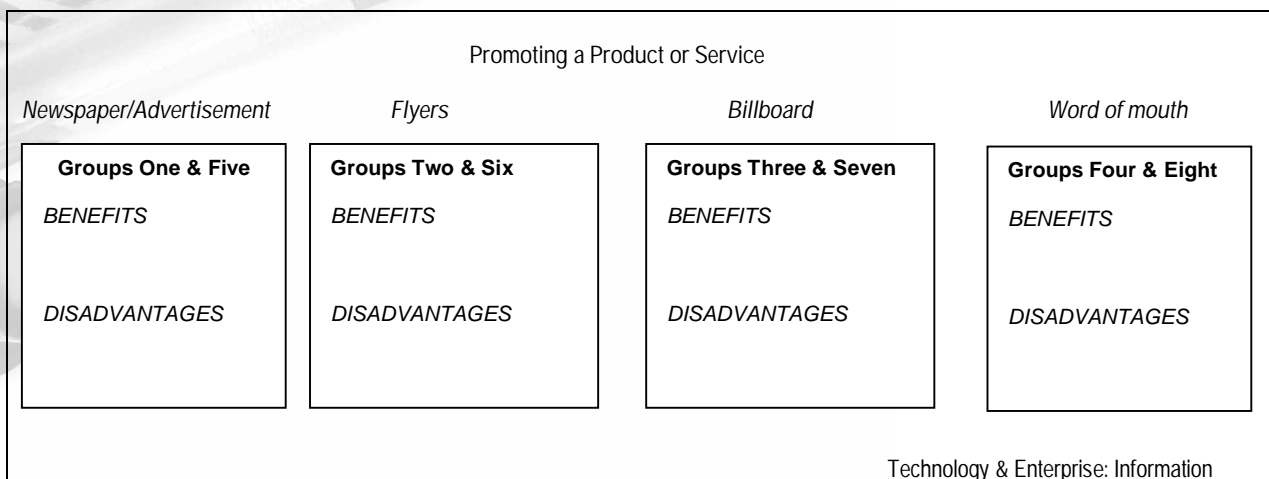


ROTATING GROUPS

Purpose

- To provide students an audience for their work
- To allow several issues or aspects of a topic to be covered efficiently
- To promote student-centred, collaborative problem solving
- To provide opportunities for revision of concepts
- To encourage critical thinking



Implementation

- Identify issues or aspects of a topic and record these as headings on separate sheets of paper
- Have groups begin at different sheets, discussing the issue and coming to consensus on what they will record
- After a set time, rotate groups clockwise to the next sheet of paper. Group considers ideas already recorded and adds any new ideas
- A reporter can remain with original sheet of paper to talk through issues and ideas recorded
- Students can leave a question mark beside items that require clarification. A lightning bolt symbol can be placed beside solutions deemed to be inappropriate
- Continue rotating groups in the same direction. - They may not need to rotate around all stations
- Where students have recorded question marks or lightning bolts, whole group discussion may be necessary

Evaluation

Examples of the skills/understandings that may be observed include:

- The level of understanding of the concepts covered
- The ability to develop and support ideas
- The extent to which subject-specific vocabulary is embedded in student usage
- The student's ability to critically analyse, evaluate and apply ideas

Principles of Learning and Teaching

- Action and reflection
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Adapted from *Stepping Out Literacy and Learning Strategies, 1996, EDWA*