
THE ROLES OF INDIVIDUALS WITHIN GROUPS

This material is suitable for use in teacher training workshops. It is also suitable for use by teachers with their students.

On the next page is a set of five role cards for group work.

These cards can be cut out and one role card handed to each member of the group.

When groups commence their activity, each group member should take responsibility for performing the role allocated on his/her card.

When groups work on other activities, at a later time, the roles can be rotated so each member has an opportunity to play all of the roles.

As there are five roles, the ideal situation would be to arrange **groups of five**.

Alternatively:

- For a group of four, one person would need to take responsibility for two of the roles: e.g. "timekeeper" and "encourager".
- For a group of six, two people could be given the role of "encouragers".

---o—O—o---

TIME KEEPER

- Makes sure that job is done by given time limits
- Encourages everyone to start and to do their best
- Takes initiative if nobody else is doing so
- Takes care the group works on the task

ASSISTANT

- Makes sure that everyone knows what they are supposed to do
- Assists the ones who need help
- Gives different suggestions

CHECKER/EVALUATOR

- Ensures that everyone has understood and is able to pass the created information forward
- Makes sure that everyone is able to do his/her tasks
- Asks critical but constructive questions

ENCOURAGER

- Encourages everyone to do their best
- Gives credit for good ideas or good jobs
- Invites shy or silent personalities to contribute

ORGANISER

- Gets all the needed materials and tools and takes care of them
- Organises the environment suitable for effective work and teamwork
- Makes sure that everyone gets to do their part of the job