

The Minute Paper

What it is: The minute paper is a teaching and learning exercise in which instructors ask students to provide answers to 1-2 questions in a short timeframe at the beginning, middle, or end of class. Depending on the purpose of the activity, students write their names on their papers. Responses are collected in class.

Typical questions:

- *Devise a question that should be answerable from the day's assigned reading.*
- What is the most important thing you learned today?
- What is the muddiest point in what was covered today?
- What is your most pressing question about today's lesson?
- *Devise a question that should be answerable based on the information provided in today's learning activities.*

Purpose:

- Holds students accountable to the day's reading
- Encourages students to actively engage with the day's learning activities
- Allows students the opportunity to show what they know
- Gives students practice composing essays & organizing thoughts
- Provides instructors with immediate feedback on
 - What part of the lesson needs additional teaching
 - Who is present at that time (attendance tool)

Directions:

- Get out a piece of paper [and put your name on it]
- You will have [1] minute to answer the following question: *
- [Repeat for second question]
- Please pass in your papers [on your way out of class]