

### Strategy: Ticket to Retention (TtR)

This strategy asks students to review, engage in active learning and discussion, and reflect to help them retain important class information.

### Origin

Divoll, K. & Browning, S. (2010). The “classroom ticket” to concept retention. *International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, 4. Retrieved from <http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/ijsotl/v4n2/articles/DivollBrowning/index.html>.

### Application

This classroom assessment technique combines several successful techniques: the ticket out the door, the one-minute paper, and think-pair-share.

At the end of a class period, students answer one to five questions about the relevant information from the class. Students begin by writing their answers to the questions. Students then discuss their responses with a classmate and then listen to their classmate share their answers. Then they repeat this process with a second classmate. The instructor collects the answers as the students leave the class.

This is different than other activities because:

- Students answer specific questions on key concepts rather than list what they’ve learned
- Students engage in active learning by discussing their answers with others
- Students engage in thinking, writing, speaking, and listening to promote longer retention of the material

The authors evaluated the technique in both 4- and 15- week courses. The TtR assessment was used about once weekly, on average. Regardless of the duration of the course, students in courses using TtR recalled information at an average rate of 89 percent, as measured on a midterm and final exam. Students also reported higher satisfaction and effective learning because of the ability to use class time to interact with other students and their perception that this improved their learning and test preparation. The authors recommend that instructors provide sufficient time (approximately 10-15 minutes) for this activity.

### Reflection

- How does this compare to what you are already doing?

- How would you use this activity in your course?
- Choose a topic from your course and determine what TtR questions you would provide to students.
- How could you use students TtR answers to gain feedback about your teaching?