

Introductory Activity: Telepictionary



Summary

Telepictionary is a fun but rather long ice breaker. It is based off Pictionary (or guessing a phrase based on a drawing) and Telephone (sending a message around a circle and seeing how it is distorted at the last recipient). Participants write a sentence about themselves and allow it to be warped, ending with introduction of participants based on their sentence/the warped interpretation.

Details

Time: 15 – 20 minutes

Best for session #: 1 or 8

Instructions

1. Each participant receives a blank (or segmented) sheet of paper.
(The TM should have a colored sheet so they can track the position of the sheets as they circulate.)
2. Everyone writes their name at the top of their paper.
3. Ask everyone to write a sentence about themselves. Preferably an interesting sentence, with two or more abstract components. (E.g. I am very outgoing, and a musician.)
4. Once everyone has written their sentence, ask everyone to simultaneously pass their sheet of paper to the person on their left.
5. Everyone reads the sentence, and is given 20 seconds to make a quick drawing that represents the sentence.
6. When 20 seconds is up, everyone folds the paper so that the original sentence is hidden, but their drawn image is still showing.
7. Then everyone once again passes the paper to the left.
8. Everyone looks at their image, and is given 20 seconds to make a quick sentence that represents the image.
9. When 20 seconds is up, everyone folds the paper so that the image is hidden, but the new sentence is still showing.
10. REPEAT STEPS 5-9 until everyone's paper is back to them (track with the colored paper), or you run out of time, or there is no more space on the papers. The last thing on the paper should be another sentence (not an image).
11. At the end, everyone introduces the owner of the paper they have, reads the first sentence, and then the last sentence (or vice versa).