

## **“Speed Dating”**

Sample from Kelly Peinado (English)

"Speed Dating" is a good way to get every student in the class involved in discussion. You can create questions as a pre-reading activity, as I did in the attached example, or you can create after-reading questions.

To set up a "Speed Dating" discussion in your class, ask students to stand up and form two long lines, with one group facing the other. Each person should stand directly in front of his/her partner about 24 inches apart. Each student has a copy of the questions. Designate one row as the stationary row, and one as the row that will shift to the left when the teacher calls time and everyone goes to the next question on the list. Allow 1 or 2 minutes for pairs to discuss each question, then call time and tell the moving row to shift to the left. If you have a very big class, you could have students form several sets of rows.

After all the questions have been discussed, have students sit back down and have a brief whole-class sharing of what interesting or surprising points came up.

As I mentioned, my specific speed dating questions in the attachment are designed for a pre-reading activity. It prepares them to then read this brief article: <https://www.brookings.edu/research/should-everyone-go-to-college/>

A more challenging, in-depth article on the same issue is <http://www.aei.org/publication/are-too-many-people-going-to-college-2/>

### **“Speed Dating” questions on “Should Everyone Go to College?”**

1. Have you always been told by parents and teachers that you should absolutely go to college? Is that why you are in college now?
2. How important will potential future earnings be in your choice of a major and a career?
3. What factors besides potential earnings will (or do) influence your choice of major and career?
4. What other benefits besides career training do you think college can offer you?
5. If you had enough money to live well without working, do you think you would pursue a career anyway? Discuss your reasons.