Circle Chart

Goal of Exercise:

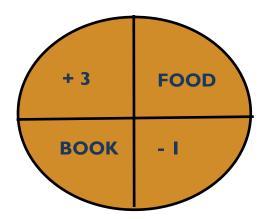
To enable the student to think about multiple ideas at one time, while still keeping an organized and steady train of thought.

Description:

Draw or make a large circle and divide it into fourths (see picture). In two opposite corners, put mathematical directions; in the two remaining fourths, write categories (categories can include anything from food, to cars, to colors, to famous people).

Students will begin by picking any number. Then, starting in the top left hand corner, they will go fourth by fourth around the circle. When they come to a math direction, they will add or subtract that from their first number. They will keep this new number until the next direction. On the in-between category squares, they will say something that belongs to that category (no repeats).

Example: "5, pizza, 4, Moby Dick, 7, mashed potatoes, 6, The Hobbit..."



Teacher's Note:

This exercise can be introduced in class, but works best as an individual exercise to do after class or at home on their own. Students should do this exercise speaking audibly.

A consistent, constant tempo should be strived for – rather than long pauses to think before the next category. Allowing for thinking-time defeats the purpose of this exercise.



Students will be slow and only get once or twice around on their first try, but with encouragement and practice they'll be able to keep going without stopping.