

## Participant Centered Learning Activity

### Open Ended Questions

#### OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS:

- Give you a longer answer with lots of useful information
- Ask the person to think and reflect
- Give you opinions and feelings – valuable stuff!
- Hand control of the conversation to the **respondent**
- Make your job easier and more enjoyable because you ask fewer questions

#### CLOSED QUESTIONS:

- Give you just the *facts*
- Are easy and quick to answer (usually “yes’ or “no”)
- Keep control of the conversation with the **questioner**
- Require you to work a lot harder
- Keep your focus on your next question, instead of what the person is saying

Closed	Open Ended
<i>It's great weather, isn't it?</i> <i>Where do you live?</i> <i>What time is it?</i>	<i>What did you do on your holidays?</i> <i>How do you keep focused on your work?</i> <i>Tell me more about your project at work.</i>

#### **THE ACTIVITY:** Forming open-ended questions

Work with a partner and ask a closed ended question about the person’s (choose one: their weekend, children, vacation, first bicycle, dog or cat, etc...or think of something on your own...) keep asking closed ended questions about the topic until you hear me call time. The goal is to gather as much information as possible.

Now try it again using open ended questions.

When I call time- stop. We will hear a sample of how this went. Discuss with larger group what worked and what was challenging.



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