

(Think) AHEAD



Everyday synonyms



All of the words on the left are synonyms of the Thinking Move AHEAD – they all have a similar meaning. ('Synonym' means 'same name' in ancient Greek.)

Talk with your neighbour and see if you can agree which of them you do *most often* during the day.

Make a list going in order from 'most often' to 'least often'.

(Think) AHEAD



(Think) BACK



Muddled Synonyms

rehearse remember
chew over
hope
recall aim predict
target
expect reflect
look forward
think again

The words on the left have similar meanings to either (think) AHEAD or (think) BACK.

(We call them 'synonyms' from an ancient Greek word that means 'same name'.)

Talk with your neighbour to see if you can agree which go with AHEAD and which with BACK.

Make 2 lists, one of synonyms for AHEAD and one for BACK.

(Think) AHEAD



Preparing

Either: Imagine you're about to spend a whole day on this beach. What kind of things might you need to take with you?

Or: If you were to have a day out somewhere, where would you go to?

What would you need to take for your special day out?

Share your thoughts in a conversation with your neighbour.



(Think) AHEAD



Will, Might, Should

1. Firstly, think of 3 or 4 events in the next day or week that you are *expecting* or *looking forward* to, ranging from the very usual (e.g. having supper) to the rather special (e.g. a birthday).
2. 'Exchange' events with a partner – briefly, in list form, not in detail.
3. Each of you, select one event from your partner's list and QUESTION them *in detail* about what they think **will** happen, but also what **might** happen (because it sometimes does) and perhaps what **should** happen.
4. Finally, ask each other if there is anything they think they should AIM to do, in order to affect what might happen for the better.



target

(Think) AHEAD



Good idea, bad idea

Good idea

Bad idea

Think AHEAD to the future. Where on the 'Good idea/Bad idea' continuum would you put these robots?



(Think) AHEAD



Enhancing Lesson Objectives

DIALOGUE
WORKS

Sharing lesson objectives with students is surely intended to help them think AHEAD to the lesson.

(If not, why share them?)

Perhaps you could spend a little more time in future engaging students with what is coming up.

This could be encouraging them to think BACK on **prior learning** (especially last lesson),

but it could equally be encouraging them to imagine **what they might be doing** shortly,

and **PREPARE**, intellectually and emotionally, to do it.

(Think) AHEAD



Timing

**DIALOGUE
WORKS**

Teachers are naturally conscious of time and timing during lessons, but they do well if they can develop the same awareness in their students – especially in regard to **timed tests**.

Encourage them occasionally, then:

- to **step back** from a task
- to **look** at how much time they have left, and what they still need to do
- and, thinking AHEAD, to **plan** the remaining elements of the task.

(Think) BACK



Slightly different synonyms

remember
recall
rehearse
chew over
think again
reflect

All of the words on the left are synonyms of the Thinking Move BACK – they have similar meanings.

Talk with your neighbour and see if you can see any *slight differences* between the words.

Be ready to explain to others what you think the differences might be.

(Think) BACK



The satisfaction of recalling

Ignoring things you do in school, (Think) BACK and tell your partner about something that you do

- **every single day.**
- **just once a week**
- **just once each year**

... and something you've only done **once in your whole life**

Now try thinking BACK to something you *like* to do regularly, and talk about why.

Can that help you think of something that you *would like* to do that you haven't done yet?

(Think) BACK



Reflecting on Reflection

The famous philosopher, Confucius, who lived over 2000 years ago in China, said that
reflection is the highest means by which to develop wisdom.



- See if you agree, as a class, on what wisdom is,
and on whether reflection - thinking BACK – is the best way of becoming wise.

If so, you might try regularly pausing to REFLECT for a moment before your next task
and see whether it helps you understand things better,
and even make better decisions in future.

Do think writing can help you reflect too? If so, might you try writing a weekly diary?

(Think) BACK



Thinking over and thinking up

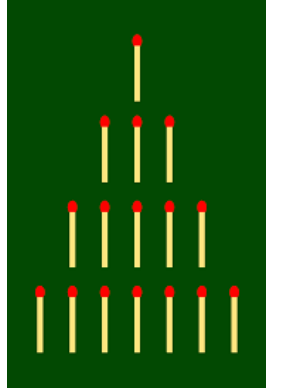
Thinking over what you have done can enable you to think up ideas or strategies for doing better in the future.

Try this out by playing a basic version of the **Ancient Chinese game of Nim**:

pairs place a pre-determined number of counters (say, sixteen matchsticks) between them and take turns to remove either one or two counters.

The person to take the last counter loses.

Think BACK on / think OVER the game, especially on key points that may have influenced the outcome



Think up a strategy for the next game, try it out and see how successful the plan was.

(Think) BACK



Past experience and future aims

**DIALOGUE
WORKS**

We will often ask students to think BACK
(on the recent trip, on the school holiday, on their playground behaviour etc)
but it is good practice to build in **regular reflection points**,
not just on lessons but on their education and development generally.

Try, at the beginning of each week, to have a short spell of thinking BACK to the previous week
and establishing their AIM(s) for the current one.

Of course, we may, as teachers, have many more aims for our students
but this will help develop a spirit of reflection.

The regular practice of asking *'What went well?'* (thinking BACK) and
'What would be even better if..?' (thinking AHEAD)
will also involve students constructively in the evaluation process.