



# Expert circles

## Level

Advanced

## Time

50-100 minutes

## Outline

Information gap  
Attentive listening  
Note taking  
Scanning

## Focus

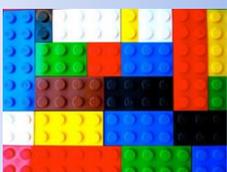
Reading  
Listening  
Writing  
Speaking

## Material

Topic-related texts  
Question grid

## Thinking skills

HOTS and LOTS



## Procedure

### Before class

1. Choose 4-5 **different** texts related to the topic of the lesson.
2. Create a grid with jumbled questions suitable for note-taking (**see sample**).
3. Fill 2-4 questions per text/group into the question squares. Jumble them.

### In class

4. Do vocabulary scaffolding if necessary (see Scaffolding Activities).
5. Form groups of 4 members (or 3 members). Have your learners count 1-4. Tell them to remember their number.
6. Hand out the grid (A3 format with large squares for note-taking). Tell them that each group needs to
  - read the text given,
  - help one another with difficult expressions,
  - highlight the keywords in each question,
  - decide which of the questions in the grid they can answer,
  - **discuss** the answers, and
  - THEN take notes together in the squares below the relevant questions. All group members should have the same notes.
7. Tell your learners to take their grids with them.
8. Seat all 1s, 2s etc. at a separate island of desks. Provide them with their texts, i.e. text 1 for group/desk 1, text 2 for group/desk 2, etc.
9. Set a time limit and assign the role of time-keeper to one group member.
10. When the time is up, tell learners to re-group: each desk now has a 1, a 2, a 3 etc. Tell them to take their grids with them.
11. At their new tables, each group member "1" reports about the facts found with the help of their notes question by question. The other group members listen attentively and report back 5-6 facts (alternating) to the speaker.
12. Then they can take notes in the relevant answer square. Copying from the speaker's grid is not allowed. If necessary, they can ask the speaker for help.
13. Repeat step 11-12 for group members 2-4.

**Optional** Provide all learners with all the texts after the activity.

**Tip** List the questions in the grid in a suitable order if necessary.