

Group Review Activity

Props/Prep: Yes

Time: 30 min.

Audience: Groups

Physical: No

This activity should be done midway through the time frame that a group is working together. It will help groups review team dynamics and current performance. The activity will help refocus efforts for the success of the group, and discuss any perceived strengths and weaknesses of the group.

Time Requirements: Allow 30 minutes for the entire process.

Materials needed:

- **Per student:** 'Strengths & Weaknesses' Survey (Handout A)
- **Per group:** 'A Quick Debrief' (Handout B)

Special features: This activity is useful for working out the kinks in a group midway through their time together. For the teacher, it clarifies strengths and weaknesses of each group.

Procedure: Have groups sit together. Give them the rules and handouts. Group members should individually complete Handout A and share their own information with the other group members. All group members should collaborate to complete Handout B. Discussion of all content will be done within each group. All students should know that the teacher may be invited into the group discussion if the group process is 'breaking down'.

NOTE: The teacher should collect a copy of Handout B from EVERY group. This will help the teacher review the group process, and intervene if necessary.

Debrief: See 'A Quick Debrief' (Handout B)

- What is the purpose of this exercise?
- What did you learn about your group and group members?
- What areas were identified in 'room to improve'?
- Where do we go from here (moving forward)?
- What are the improvements we have committed to making?
- What are the commitments we have stated?
- When will we discuss group process again?

Function in the class: To facilitate group success. Group members will discuss perceived strengths and weaknesses of the group. Group members will then redirect efforts, focus in on developing success strategies, and discuss positive group communication methods. This may also provide an opportunity for groups to discuss problems within their group in a controlled environment.

Adapted from; Harshman & Phillips (1996). Team training: from startup to high performance. McGraw-Hill: New York, NY.

‘Strengths & Weaknesses’ Survey

Handout A

Group Name: _____

Instructions: This survey will help you review your group’s progress. Please **individually** complete the questions. Provide **ONE** answer only for each statement. You will be asked to share your answers with your group members during the debriefing portion of this activity.

Legend	Major Weakness	Moderate Weakness	Strength & Weakness	Moderate Strength	Major Strength
Working together as a group	1	2	3	4	5
Commitment to the group’s goals	1	2	3	4	5
Effectiveness of group meetings	1	2	3	4	5
Communication among group members	1	2	3	4	5
Members getting their work done on time	1	2	3	4	5
All members participating equally	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of work produced by the group	1	2	3	4	5
Members being motivated for the group’s tasks	1	2	3	4	5
All members sharing the workload	1	2	3	4	5
All members’ performances thus far	1	2	3	4	5
One specific member’s performance thus far (Name _____)	1	2	3	4	5

'A Quick Debrief'

Handout B

Group Name: _____

As a group, answer the following questions. Make sure you reach group consensus before writing down your group answer. Once this handout is completed, each member AND the teacher should receive a copy.

What is the purpose of this exercise?

What did you learn about your group and group members?

What areas were identified in 'room to improve'?

Where do we go from here (moving forward)?

What are the improvements we have committed to making?

What are the commitments we have stated?

When will we discuss group process again?