

When assessing pupils' understanding, it is important that you allow pupils enough time to consider the question and generate a response. The typical teacher waits about one second before taking an answer (Lemov, 2015), which is unlikely to result in a well developed and carefully considered response.

Therefore, when asking questions, it is important to leave thinking time between asking the question and calling on the pupil you wish to answer. This has two benefits:

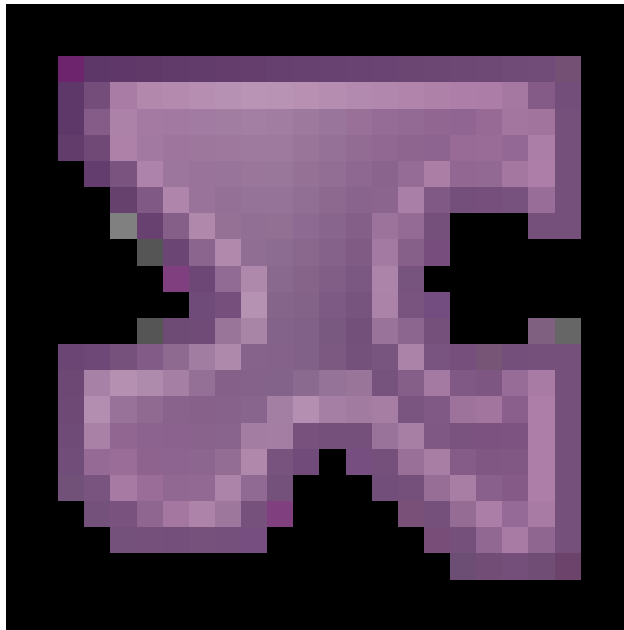
- It gives pupils time to think about your questions and apply their understanding to generate a suitable response.
- By naming the pupil *after* asking the question, you encourage all pupils to be ready with an answer because they don't know who you will call upon.

Wait time in action

Watch a video of a teacher providing pupils with enough wait time and consider the following question. Record your response in the [notes tab](#) (or your own notebook):

- What impact does this have on pupils' engagement and quality of response?

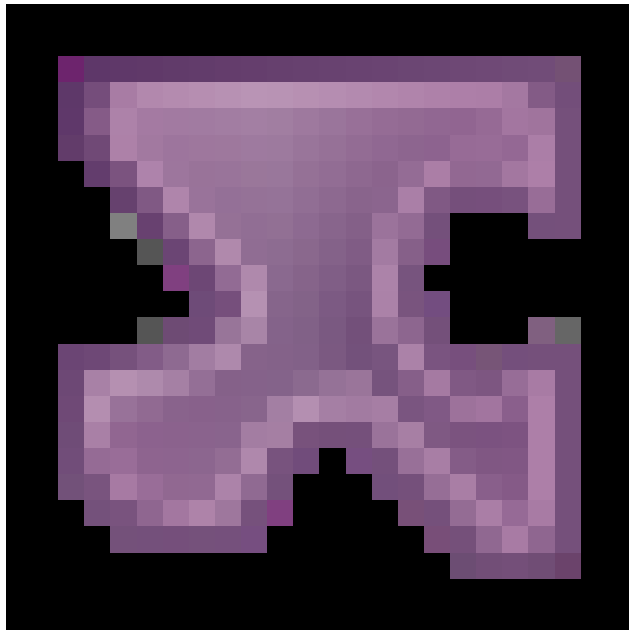
Early years



Direct Link: [Wait Time - Early Years](#)

Direct Link to an audio described version of this video: [Wait Time - Early Years](#)

Primary

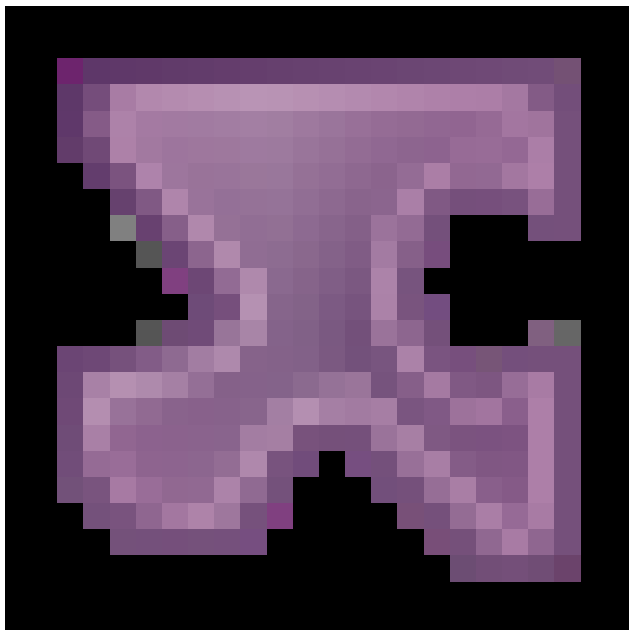


Direct Link: [Wait time - Primary](#)

Direct Link to an audio described version of this video: [Wait time - Primary](#)

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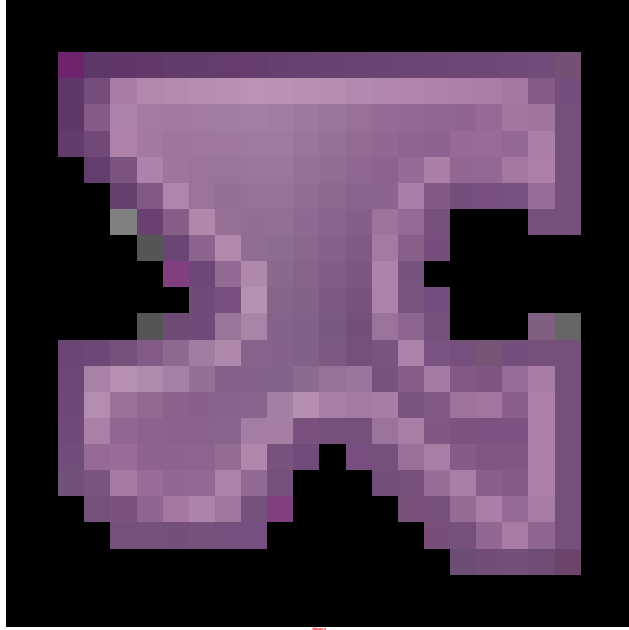
Secondary



Direct Link: [Wait time - Secondary](#)

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Specialist



Direct Link: [Wait time - Specialist](#)

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