



# Cooperative learning

Concept and Approaches

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# Introduction

- Cooperative Learning can be defined as collaboration in an instructional setting either between or among members of small groups that achieves learning outcomes, including ability to remember and utilize what is learned
- **Students work together in small groups and learn through interaction with each other while the teacher coaches the process.**
- Cooperative Learning is part of a group of teaching/learning techniques where students interact with each other to acquire and practice the elements of a subject matter and to meet common learning goals.

# DEFINITION

- Cooperative learning involves students working together in small groups to accomplish shared goals.

**(Gillies, R., 2007)**

- Successful cooperative learning tasks as intellectually demanding, creative, open-ended, and involve higher order thinking tasks.

**(Ross and Smyth., 1995)**

# Elements of Cooperative Learning

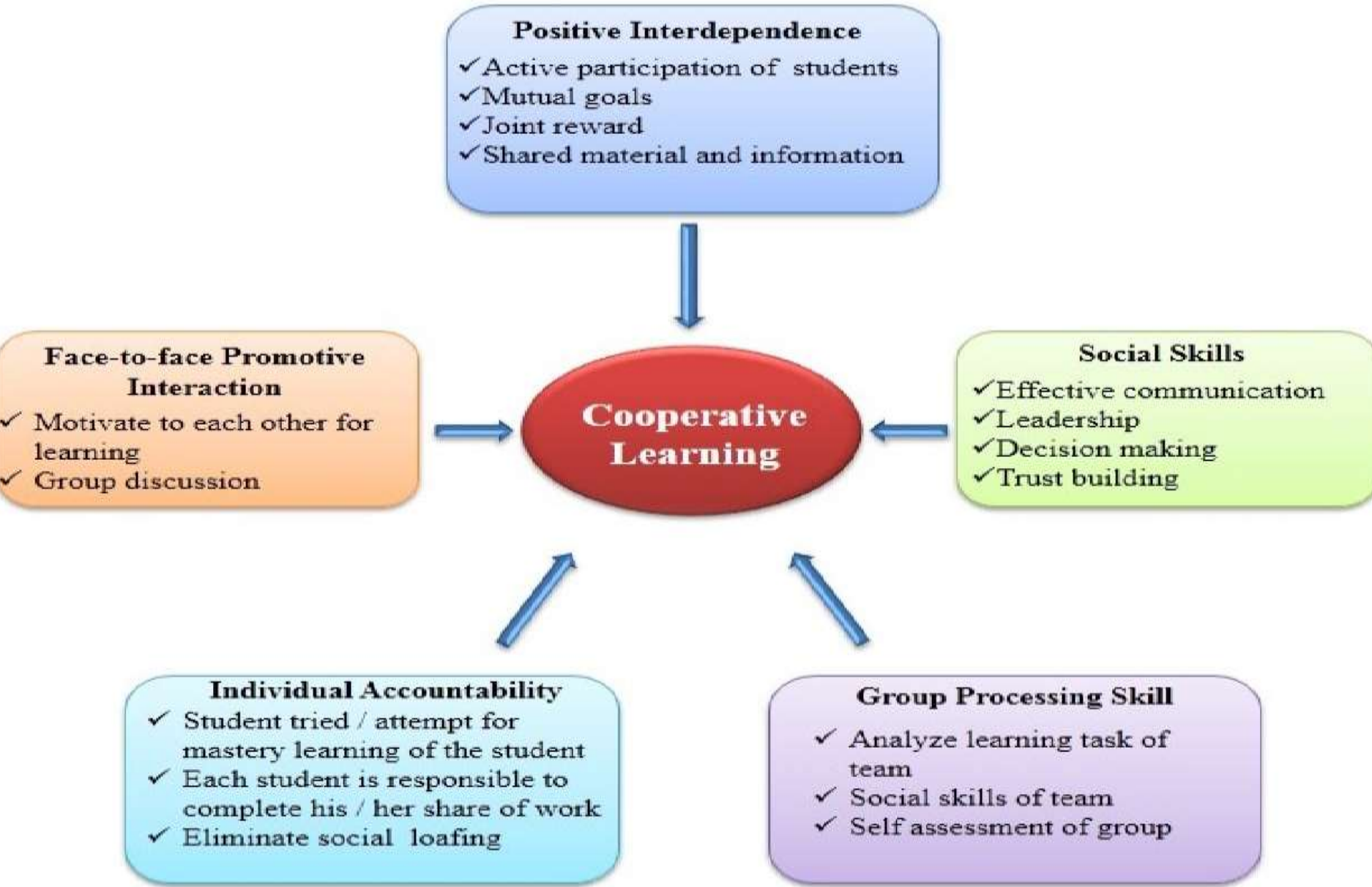
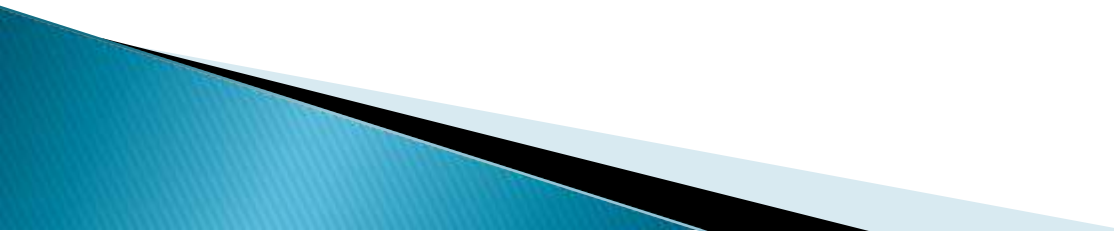


Fig 1: Essential elements of cooperative learning.

# Role of the Teacher...

## **Before the lesson**

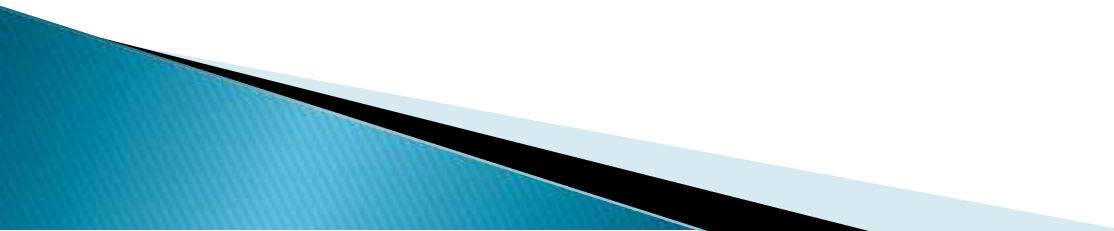
- ✓ Clear the learning objectives
  - ✓ Decide the group size and members in each group
  - ✓ Provide the necessary material to the each group
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# Developing Social Skills Among students

Set the rule of cooperative learning and ensure that they are implemented as:

- Work quietly together on given assignment
- Listen carefully to each other
- Ask for explanation not for answer
- Help each other
- Take the assistance of the teacher iff team members are not able to solve the problem

## **Establish good teamwork:**

- ❖ **Team members should sit in proper manner(facing each other)**
  - ❖ **They have all the required material**
  - ❖ **Every team member is working hard**
  - ❖ **They are listening to each other**
  - ❖ **Team members give chance to everyone in the group to express themselves**
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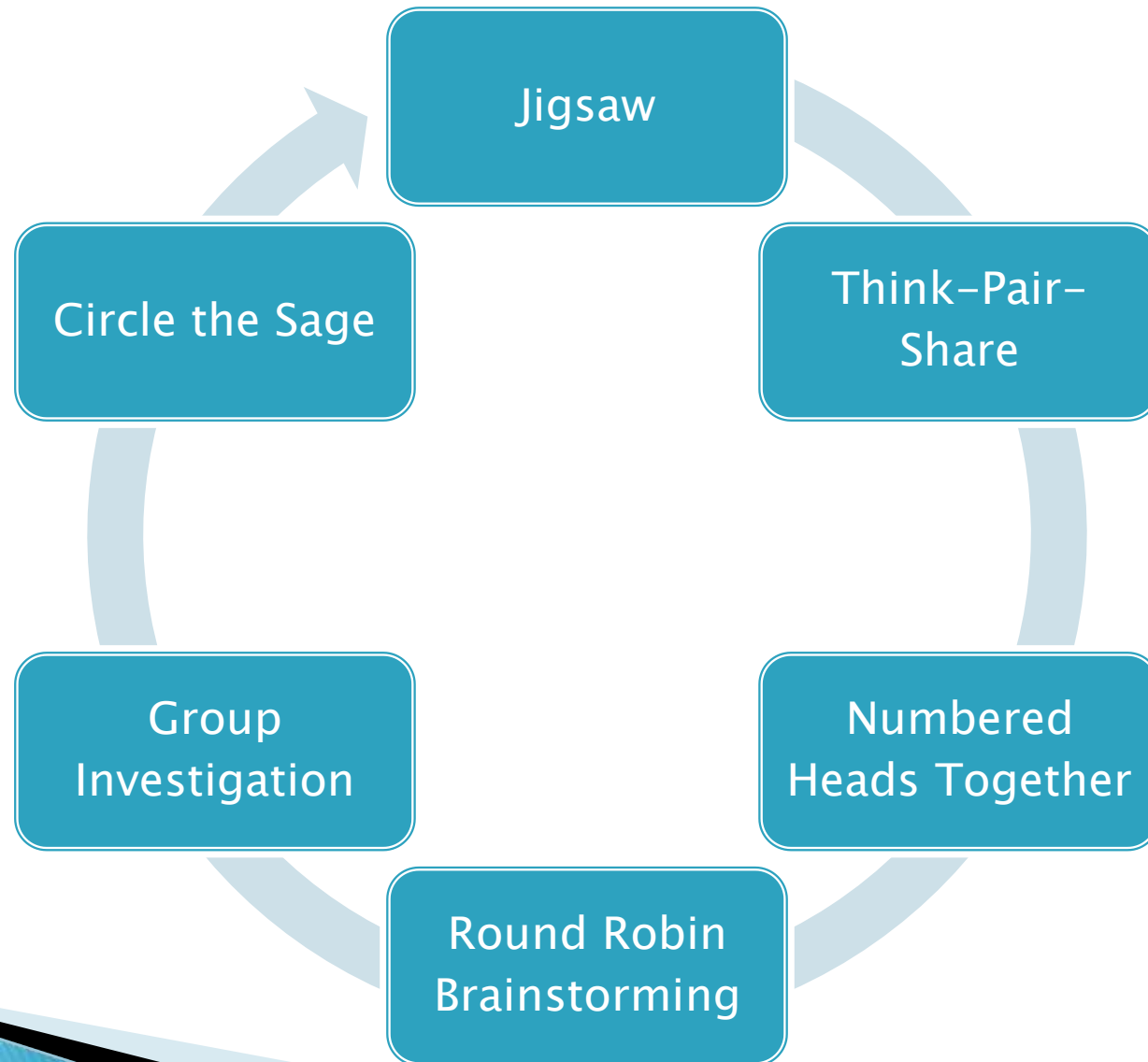
## Cooperative Learning: A Learner Centered Approach

Rr

The use of discussion groups, group work, and pair work has been often advocated both in teaching languages and in other subjects. It helps to increase amount of student participation in lessons. In Cooperative Learning, group activities are the major mode of learning. Group activities are carefully planned to maximize students' interaction and to facilitate students' contributions to each other's learning. (Jack C. Richards: 2006 , 201)



# Cooperative learning Strategies



# What is Jigsaw?

Jigsaw is a cooperative learning strategy that enables each student of a “home” group to specialize in one aspect of a learning unit. Students meet with members from other groups who are assigned the same aspect, and after mastering the material, return to the “home” group and teach the material to their group members.



## **Think**

Pupils think  
independently  
about the monthly  
challenging problem



## **Pair**

Pupils pair up to  
share ideas

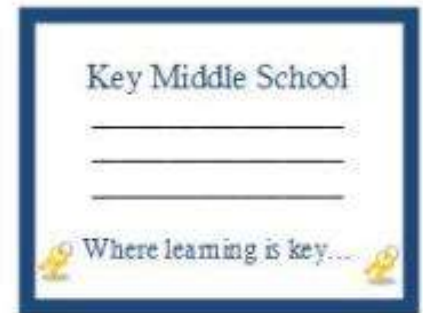


## **Share**

Pupils share the  
best answer with  
the class

# NUMBERED HEADS TOGETHER

- Students number off (groups of 4)
- Teacher poses a problem
- Students **write** their individual answers
- Students stand up and put their heads together to show their answers, discuss and teach
- Students sit down when their group is done
- Teacher calls a number and those students respond using choral response or response cards



# Round Robin Brainstorming

- Group students into sets of four or five each, and instruct each group to appoint a recorder. Pose a question having several answers. Have group members think silently about responses and then take turns sharing their ideas with the others in the group. Ask group members not to criticize one another's responses. Instruct the recorder to write down the ideas. After a few minutes, stop the discussions, and select a member of each group to read the recorder's list aloud.

# COOPERATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES

## ❑ Group Investigation.

Students are placed in groups and decide how a topic will be researched, summarized, and how the workload will be divided (Sharan & Sharan 1976).





## Circle the Sage

(Great way to address group questions)

1. A question is posed by teacher or students.
2. Ask for 3 – 4 volunteer “sages” who feel they can answer the question.
  - *They do not need to be experts; they just have information to share.*
3. The sages move to different locations in the room.
4. An equal number of students “circle” around each sage. (Teams break up so all sages are heard by someone in the group.)
5. Sages answer the original question.

# CIRCLE THE SAGE

# Cooperative Learning Benefits

- ❖ Cooperative Learning teaching techniques facilitate learning and memory by:
  - Ensuring attention through active student participation
  - Adding meaning and relevance to the material
  - Enabling students to learn from “modeling” or through observation of others
  - Students of all ability levels show higher academic achievement when taught using cooperative learning techniques as opposed to traditional techniques.
  - Encouraging student participation through expectation of rewards - desire to avoid possible punishments





# Cooperative Learning

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## **Advantages**

- Helps foster mutual responsibility.  
Supported by research as an effective technique.  
Students learn to be patient, less critical and more compassionate.

## **Disadvantages**

- Some students don't work well this way.  
Loners find it hard to share answers.  
Aggressive students try to take over.  
Bright students tend to act superior.



**THANK YOU**