



PLANIT

TEACHERS

Academic Discussion Excellence: PREP Method Implementation

Course: Academic Communication Skills

Level: University (Age 19)

Duration: 90 minutes

Focus: PREP Method for Academic Discussions

Learning Objectives:

- Master the PREP method for structured academic discussions
- Develop critical thinking and argumentation skills
- Apply evidence-based reasoning in academic contexts
- Enhance academic discourse capabilities

- ✓ PREP Method Templates
- ✓ Discussion Framework Slides
- ✓ Digital Recording Equipment
- ✓ Student Workbooks
- ✓ Assessment Rubrics
- ✓ Example Cards
- ✓ Timer

Pre-Session Setup (15 mins before)

Room Configuration:

- Arrange seats in horseshoe formation for optimal discussion flow
- Set up recording equipment at strategic points
- Prepare whiteboard with PREP method framework
- Test all digital equipment and presentations

Common Student Challenges:

- Confusing evidence with personal opinion
- Weak transitions between PREP components
- Insufficient academic source integration
- Over-reliance on anecdotal evidence

Opening Phase (0-15 minutes)

0-5 minutes

"Welcome to today's session on mastering academic discussions. We'll be focusing on the PREP method - a powerful framework that will transform your ability to present arguments in academic contexts."

[Display opening slide with PREP acronym]

Initial Hook: Share a brief example of a weak vs. strong academic argument to demonstrate the impact of structured thinking.

5-10 minutes

"Let's break down the PREP method components: P - Point: Your clear, concise argument statement R - Reason: The logical explanation supporting your point E - Evidence: Academic sources and concrete examples P - Position: Your reinforced final stance"

[Distribute PREP templates and guide initial examination]

10-15 minutes

"Watch carefully as I demonstrate the PREP method using a current academic topic."

Sample Demonstration:

- Point: "Digital literacy should be a mandatory university requirement."
- Reason: "Modern academic and professional success depends heavily on digital competency."
- Evidence: "According to recent studies, 82% of employers expect advanced digital skills from graduates."
- Position: "Therefore, universities must integrate digital literacy into core curricula."

Development Phase (15-45 minutes)

15-25 minutes

"Now it's your turn to practice. We'll start with guided implementation using current academic topics."

[Distribute practice scenarios]

Guided Practice Structure:

1. Individual PREP template completion (5 mins)
2. Pair review and refinement (3 mins)
3. Selected sharing and class feedback (2 mins)

Support Strategies:

- Provide sentence starters for ESL students
- Offer additional examples for visual learners
- Create peer support pairs for struggling students
- Extend complexity for advanced students

25-35 minutes

"Let's analyze some real academic discussion examples and identify PREP components."

[Play recorded academic discussion clips]

Discussion Analysis Tasks:

- Identify PREP components in real discussions
- Evaluate effectiveness of each component
- Suggest improvements using PREP framework
- Document observations in workbooks

35-45 minutes

"Now we'll practice implementing PREP in live discussions."

Small Group Practice:

- Form groups of 3-4 students
- Assign academic discussion topics
- Rotate roles: Speaker, Observer, Evaluator
- Use PREP evaluation rubrics

Practice Phase (45-75 minutes)

45-60 minutes

"It's time for structured practice with real-time feedback."

Rotation Structure:

1. Present PREP-structured argument (2 mins)
2. Receive peer feedback (1 min)
3. Instructor feedback (1 min)
4. Refinement opportunity (1 min)

Feedback Focus Points:

- Clarity of Point statement
- Logical flow of Reasoning
- Quality of Evidence
- Strength of Position reinforcement

60-75 minutes

"Let's elevate our PREP implementation with advanced techniques."

Advanced PREP Techniques:

- Counter-argument Integration
- Multi-source Evidence Synthesis
- Transitional Phrase Mastery
- Academic Register Enhancement

Enhanced PREP Example:

"While social media has revolutionized communication..."

"Research indicates that excessive platform usage correlates with..."

"A longitudinal study by Stanford University (2023) demonstrated that..."

"Although opponents argue for unrestricted access..."

"Therefore, implementing structured digital wellness programs..."

Assessment Phase (75-90 minutes)

Evaluation Components:

- Individual PREP Implementation (5 mins)
- Peer Assessment Exchange (3 mins)
- Self-Reflection Documentation (2 mins)
- Final Instructor Feedback (5 mins)

PREP Assessment Rubric:

Component	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)
Point	Clear, precise, compelling	Clear, focused	Basic, unclear
Reason	Logical, well-structured	Reasonable, organized	Simple, disconnected
Evidence	Multiple credible sources	Single source support	Weak evidence
Position	Strong reinforcement	Clear conclusion	Basic restatement

Extension Activities

Advanced Implementation Options:

1. Digital PREP Portfolio

- Create digital recordings of PREP arguments
- Compile written PREP examples
- Document improvement progression
- Include peer and instructor feedback

2. Academic Debate Integration

- Structured debate using PREP framework
- Real-time argument construction
- Cross-examination practice
- Rebuttal development

3. Research Integration Project

- Select academic research topic
- Develop multiple PREP arguments
- Create presentation with evidence
- Conduct peer review sessions

Common Challenges and Solutions

Challenge 1: Weak Evidence Selection

Solution: Create evidence evaluation checklist

- Source credibility assessment
- Currency verification
- Relevance confirmation
- Context consideration

Challenge 2: Position Reinforcement

Solution: Implement position strengthening techniques

- Impact statement creation
- Future implications discussion
- Call-to-action development
- Stakeholder consideration

Challenge 3: Transition Mastery

Solution: Provide transition phrase bank

- Point to Reason: "This stance is supported by..."
- Reason to Evidence: "As demonstrated by..."
- Evidence to Position: "These findings clearly show..."

Advanced Implementation Strategies

Cross-Disciplinary Application

Science:

- Hypothesis defense
- Experimental design justification
- Results interpretation

Humanities:

- Literary analysis
- Historical interpretation
- Cultural commentary

Social Sciences:

- Policy analysis
- Research methodology defense
- Theory application

Digital Tool Integration

- Online discussion boards
- Video presentation platforms
- Collaborative document editing
- Assessment tracking software

Professional Development Extensions

Faculty Workshop Components

- PREP method introduction
- Implementation strategies
- Assessment techniques
- Student support methods

Additional Resources

- Digital PREP templates
- Assessment rubrics
- Example banks
- Student feedback forms

Department Integration

- Cross-course implementation
- Shared assessment strategies
- Resource pooling
- Best practice sharing

Final Assessment Phase (75-90 minutes)

75-85 minutes

"Let's conclude with individual PREP method demonstrations."

Final Demonstration Format:

- Choose from provided academic topics
- Present complete PREP-structured argument
- Receive final feedback and scoring
- Document self-reflection

85-90 minutes

Session Wrap-up:

- Summarize key PREP components
- Distribute practice materials
- Preview next session focus
- Collect student feedback forms

Extended Practice:

Record a 3-minute academic discussion using PREP method structure on one of the following topics:

- The impact of artificial intelligence on education
- The role of social media in academic discourse
- The future of traditional university lectures