**Brainstorming Papers with Questions**

In this activity, students practice using questions to generate ideas for their arguments.

**Process**

1. Tell students to bring to class four copies of one page with (a) a one-paragraph statement of their problem, (b) a plausible solution / claim (two if they can), and (c) a list / outline of the reasons relevant to their claim.

2. Divide the class into groups of three, and ask students to share their one-page summaries. Each group goes through three five-minute rounds, in which two students question the third about her ideas for the paper. The questioners should ask both friendly and unfriendly questions. (A good way to do this is to have one ask only friendly questions and the other only unfriendly ones for half the round and then switch roles.) The student questioned should take notes on both questions and her answers. (They might record these sessions for later reference.)