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IS FOR

# Problematising

**Focus:** Analysing topics for classroom research

**Materials needed:** Slips of paper (two different colours)



Use the QR code to find out more and see more cards in the NILE A-Z training activity series!

# Aims

- To unpack problematic classroom issues
- To analyse classroom issues in terms of causes and consequences

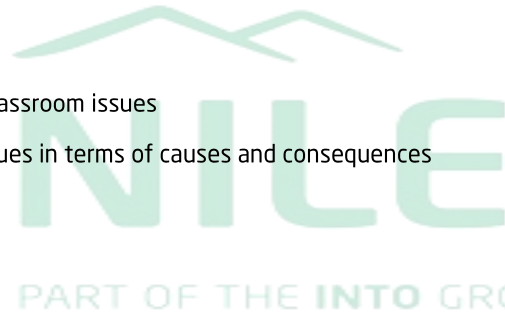
# Procedure

1. In groups, teachers select a particular 'problem' in their teaching that they wish to focus on.
2. Groups brainstorm as many possible causes for the problem as they can think of. Each cause should be noted on a separate slip of paper.
3. Groups brainstorm as many possible consequences of the problem as they can think of. Each consequence should be noted on a separate slip of paper.
4. Using both sets of slips of paper, groups assemble different configurations of causes and consequences in order to arrive at a coherent 'picture' of the problem.
5. In the light of their conclusions, groups discuss possible actions to try out to address the problem.

**Tip 1:** Problem here is a synonym for *issue*, i.e. something teachers are interested in or curious to learn more about, not necessarily something problematic.

**Tip 2:** Different coloured slips are recommended for causes and consequences.

**Tip 3:** Encourage groups to move the slips around a number of times as a way of looking at the problem from various different perspectives.



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