



## ACTIVITY: 'TWO CAFES'

**TIME:** 20+ minutes  
**SIZE:** Small groups  
**SPACE:** For small groups to work  
**RESOURCES:** Pens, paper

**The aim** is for students to use prioritising, problem-solving, and perspective-taking skills to reach a desired goal.

**The result** should be fruitful discussion about the thinking skills that help build and maintain a healthy Sense of Purpose.

1. Break the class into small groups/teams.
2. Each team is the owner of a new cafe that will open in a month's time. Every team's cafe will be in the same part of town. Give teams a minute to think up names for their cafes.
3. Have each team write a list of its objectives for their cafe. They can range from the obvious (e.g. make money, stay in business) to the subtle (e.g. win dining awards, expand diners' palates, create exciting new cuisines). Have them highlight their top three goals.
4. Now have each team list the things that might threaten all their goals – these obstacles will vary widely, but will doubtlessly include 'competition' from other teams' cafes. Have teams highlight their top three obstacles.
5. Have each team consider and list short-, medium-, and long-term strategies to deal with their three key obstacles. Are these solutions realistic? Affordable? Do they have the resources to implement them?
6. Now allow cafe teams to mingle with one another. Don't fix an agenda for this, but allow them to pitch each other their ideas and menus, and perhaps even to make 'deals' with one another (e.g. You stick to Greek cuisine and we'll stick to Asian).
7. Allow a couple of minutes for teams to revisit their goals/obstacles and then commence class discussion.



## DISCUSSION SUGGESTIONS

- What did teams name their cafes? Why? What is your 'signature' or point of difference?
- What did teams decide were their key goals? (Consider listing on whiteboard.)
- What were their three chief obstacles? (Consider listing on whiteboard.)
- What were the three solutions to those threats? (Consider listing on whiteboard.)
- Did any of the goals, obstacles or solutions change after you mingled with the owners of other cafes? Why/why not?
- How many teams considered treating other teams as allies instead of adversaries? How might this way of thinking prove helpful?
- What thinking skills did you employ in this activity that you might be able to apply to other areas of your life?