

The situation	Instead of this homework	Try this	When and where
You introduced new material to us in class	Assigning a question set so we will remember the material	Ask us to think up a homework task that follows up in this class. What would our task look like? Why are we assigning it?	Model this in class, then have us come up with ideas. Use our best ideas as subsequent assignments.
You want us to read an article before class discussion	Making us answer questions that prove we have read it	Ask us to write down two or three questions we have after reading it.	We can text or email you the questions before discussing the article in class.
You want to see if we understand a key concept (e.g., literary irony; checks and balances in government; the turn of the seasons; mathematical functions)	Making us complete a worksheet	Ask us to demonstrate the concept for the class in small groups, using any medium we choose (drama, art, writing, games).	Not a final assessment but a quick activity in class, so we can review the concept together and you can tell if we understand.
You have demonstrated a mathematical procedure and you want us to see how it applies in various situations	Assigning us ten word problems that involve this procedure	Ask for small groups to choose from your examples one word problem where this procedure applies in the real world, then solve it and present it to the class.	In class or outside school, by ourselves or in small groups.
You want us to memorize facts (e.g., dates in history; spelling or grammar; vocabulary; elements of the periodic table)s	Handing out a list that we will be tested on later	Ask each of us to create and share with the class a memorization trick (e.g., music, acronym, visual cue, gesture, cognate)that works for us with at least one item on the list.	In class or outside school, by ourselves or in small groups.
You want us to remember what you taught us last month	Assigning a review sheet at the end of the unit	Give us frequent short cycle assessments about earlier material. Go over the assessment with us right afterward, but don't count the grade.	In class, so every few days you see and can address what we have forgotten.