Tear and Share American Government activity covering chapter 1

Objective: Students will remember, understand, analyze, evaluate, and create.

Introduction

* Four questions (given by me the teacher)
* A piece of paper for each student to write on and or note card
* You will archive your final synthesized answers
* Scissors may be used to cut the paper

What will be done? Here is what you will be doing

1. You have been assigned into groups of four or possibly five
2. You will experience the information from one of the following options: An article, specific chapter
3. You will write down the questions leaving enough room for their answers.
4. You will respond to the four questions by quickly writing on a sheet of paper. (Keep in mind to make sure you are careful about using the back of the paper because they will be tearing this into four sections soon).
5. When finished writing your answers, you will carefully tear or cut the whole sheet into the four questions and their answers.
6. When all of your group members are finished you will hand their answers to each other. Number ones get the first question; number twos get the second question, and so on in numerical order.
7. After collecting your teammate's answers, you will read and synthesize each of their teammate's entries into one cohesive summary.
8. Once each group is done, you will share their summaries with the whole class.
9. The whole class will have the opportunity to work together to create the best answers to each question based on what each group reported.

An example

Imagine that the students just read an [article](http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/news/story/0,28277,2011665,00.html) on the 19th Amendment.

Question 1: If Susan B. Anthony survived to see the 19th Amendment passed, what would she say was the biggest factor in granting women the right to vote?

Example answers from the four group members:

1. I think she would say that all of the marching was the reason because they made people take notice.

1. Susan B. Anthony would say that picketing in front of the White House was the biggest factor because it forced the president and congressmen think about giving women the right to vote.

1. Ms. Anthony would be proud to say that peaceful protests were the key because they would not be ignored.

1. Susan B. Anthony would say Harry Burr's mother's note was the biggest reason why they passed the amendment.

Possible synthesis of the four answers:

We think Susan B. Anthony would say that all of their hard work picketing, marching, and peacefully protesting for their rights were the keys to winning the right to vote.

\*Notice I didn't put in my summary the answer about Harry Burr's mother, because during my reading I thought that Burr's mother must have been moved to write the letter because of the work the suffragettes were doing.