

ALWAYS, SOMETIMES, NEVER INSTRUCTIONS



When to use:

Always, Sometimes, Never (ASN) should be used with concepts that allow for situations that create exceptions to the “rule” or require students to understand subcategories to fully understand the standard.

Supplies Needed:

- Blank Evidence Cards
- ASN Statements
- ASN Identifiers (cups of three colors or three colors of cards work well)
- Post-Its (Optional)

Directions:

1. Partners or small groups of students are given a sheet of paper with one statement on the top. This sheet is referred to as the Evidence Card. Groups are asked to step into the role of a team of attorneys. As a team, they will be submitting their Evidence Card to support an always, sometimes or never decision. The team should be given 5-10 minutes to utilize scratch paper or individual white boards to talk through their stance on the statement and then transfer their thinking to their Evidence Card.
2. After teams have a chance to discuss their position, each group is asked to use their Always, Sometimes and Never identifiers to show their group’s position. Different color cups with colors designated to each of the three positions work well for this.
3. Since everyone is working towards creating an Evidence Card on the same statement, students have the opportunity to collaborate with other groups in the room. After the 5-10 minutes of discussion and work time, one person from each group remains with their Evidence Card and ASN identifier while other students from their group have about two minutes to visit other groups. Each student who does not remain with the Evidence Card should visit at least one other group to see their Evidence Card and hear their thinking on the statement. These students should then return to their group after a set amount of time to share what they learned.
4. To wrap up the first statement, students will be given 2-5 more minutes to add to or change the information on their evidence card to make the strongest case possible.
5. After finishing the first round, blank Evidence Cards can be used with other statements connected to the same standard. The teacher may want to do another round where all students have the same card or choose to hand out different statements to different groups followed by groups exchanging Evidence Cards and providing other groups feedback on their cards.