

The Equivalency Challenge (20-30 minutes)

The Equivalency Challenge is a team competition designed to get students thinking about the many different ways they can express the same number. The Challenge can be completed with students at any grade level.

Materials: Time clock, large pieces of paper, tape, markers

Instructions:

1. Divide students up into small teams (about 4-5 students).
2. Explain that each round teams will have 3 minutes to come up with as many equivalent expressions of the provided number as possible. They should write their answers in large print on the paper provided. Correct answers will earn points and incorrect answers will deduct them.
3. At the end of each round, teams should hang up their answer sheets at the front of the classroom. Each correct answer earns the team one point and each incorrect answer deducts a point from the team's total.
4. Teams judge each other by respectfully identifying answers on another team's sheet they want to challenge as incorrect.