

Quality Academic Discussions: A Distinction between *Output* and *Interaction*

Output	Interaction
<p>When students merely share their answer to a prompt, we call this output. For example, a teacher may ask students to share one of the causes leading to the French Revolution using the Think-Pair-Share or Round Robin structure. Providing opportunities for student output is a strong instructional practice that supports the more challenging task of authentic interaction.</p>	<p>Interaction requires two or more students to work together to co-construct meaning. For example, a teacher might ask students to decide which of the many causes of the French Revolution was most important, with students proposing an idea, marshaling evidence, challenging each other, encouraging each other to elaborate, clarifying fuzzy concepts, and building on each other's ideas.</p>