# Preparing for the TOK Internal Assessment Oral Presentation:

The TOK IA is designed to give you an opportunity to explore a real-life situation that is interesting and/or important to you through the “lens” of TOK. You, or you and your group, will choose and present an interesting, substantive, real-life situation and explore knowledge issues that arise from it.

## 4-Stage approach:

1. **Choose** your focus
2. **Brainstorm** the elements to include
3. **Plan** out the presentation
4. **Give** the presentation

## I. Choosing your Focus (pp 103-106)

In you own word, define what is meant by “interesting” in this context.

“Substantive”

“Real life”

“Situation”

Now, what might be a good real life situation that you could use for your presentation? You may wish to come up with more than one, as a backup.

Next, using the handout “Understanding Knowledge Issues” to refresh your memory, seek to use your real life situation(s) to identify a good (not intermediate or poor) knowledge issue. You only need one for this presentation.

What causes this to qualify as a “good” knowledge issue? Is it:

* An open-ended question?
* Explicitly about knowledge?
* Couched in terms of TOK vocabulary and concepts?
* Precise in terms of relationships between these concepts?

Now review the TOK IA criterion and try to ***basically*** unpack the knowledge issue (pp 105).

At this point, you can compare your ideas with another person to decide if you want to make a team or give your presentation solo. I generally recommend working with someone, as it allows me to give you more time to your presentation, which means more time to unpack the knowledge issue. It also means getting to share ideas with someone else. I will be capping group sizes at 3 maximum, but am strongly recommending pairs over singles or triples. For more help deciding, read the column on pp 106.

## II. Brainstorming (pp. 107, 16-17)

What methods of presentation could I use for my IA? List at least three that would be appropriate:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consider the potential strengths and weaknesses of each, then decide on one and give a rationale for your decision below:

Which aspects of the TOK course (knowers and knowing, Truth, specific ways of knowing, specific areas of knowledge, sub-discussions and topics) are most relevant to your real life situation? Why?

Possible examples and counter examples:

Overall line of argument:

E.g., you might flesh out something like this:

Thesis (KI) 🡪 Point , example 🡪 Point, example 🡪 Counterpoint, example 🡪 Counterpoint, example 🡪 Rebuttle point, example 🡪 Tie together and conclusion points.

## III. Planning (pp 107-147, CD)