

Put AI to work beside your sheet

Use these the way your students will: **to go faster, then to be doubted**. Open any AI tool you like, paste a prompt, and fill the blanks with your own material. The sheet stays in pencil. The AI stays on tap. You stay the author. *Skipping AI entirely is also a fine choice.*

ZONE 2 Widen the storm

when your stickies slow down

"Here are the questions I've written about **[your topic]**: **[paste or type a few]**. Don't answer any of them. Give me ten more that a curious outsider would ask, and five that a skeptic would ask." Keep only the ones that make you feel something. Those go on stickies too.

ZONE 3 Find the testable core

when a question feels big but fuzzy

"Here's a question from my course: **[your question]**. What would we expect to see if the answer is yes? What if it's no? Help me phrase it as something undergraduates could actually test."

ZONE 4 Design the Do, three ways

when you want options fast

"Suggest three ways my students could test this question in one week: **[your question]**. No budget. They can use what's around them, free tools, and people they can reach. For each one, tell me where their answer could turn out to be wrong."

ZONE 5 Shape the Create

when you're deciding what they make

"My students will have tested **[your question]**. Give me five things they could make that show what they learned, across different formats, each for a real audience beyond me. Note which ones would work even if their answer turned out to be no."

ZONE 6 Rehearse the table test

before you pitch, if there's time

"Here's my unit arc: question [...], students do [...], students make [...]. Be a skeptical colleague. Ask me the three hardest questions about it." Answer out loud, even quietly. It's practice for the real table.

The standing rule: ask AI to **argue against** your favorite question. If the question survives, keep it. If it doesn't, you just saved a semester.

DOUBT IT