



# smôl tôk

## TOOLKIT FOR EDUCATORS

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# CONTENTS

One	
WHAT IS SMOL TOK?	3
Two	
DIALOGUE ABOUT MEANING	4
Three	
SMOL TOK IN CLASS	5
Four	
SAMPLE 2 HOUR LESSON PLAN	6
Five	
SMOL TOK IN SCHOOL	10



# WHAT IS SMOL TOK?

smol tok is a card game. It has rules for playing, scoring, and winning. On another level, smol tok is a social tool that can help:

- create meaningful conversations
- build meaningful relationships
- facilitate self-reflection and self-direction

It is ideal for people whose work involves teaching or bringing people together. There are 2 sets of cards to choose from:

- **smol tok basic deck** (60 cards) retailing at \$32.90
- **dun tok cok booster packs** (60 cards) retailing at \$29.90

Either set is available to educators at the subsidised price of \$25.00 each (see page 10).



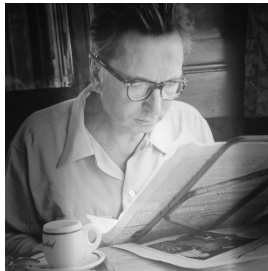
# DIALOGUE ABOUT MEANING

smol tok has two sources of inspiration: Socrates' method of questioning and Frankl's search for meaning.



*"To find yourself, think for yourself."*

- Socrates (philosopher)



*"Everyone has his own specific vocation or mission in life to carry out a concrete assignment which demands fulfillment. Therein he cannot be replaced, nor can his life be repeated. Thus, everyone's task is as unique as is his specific opportunity to implement it."*

- Viktor E. Frankl (neurologist, psychiatrist, and Holocaust survivor)





# SMOL TOK IN CLASS

The search for meaning is fundamental to what it means to be human.

As young people struggle with the pressure to succeed at school or at work, they are also seeking to make meaning out of their experiences. However, surrounded by distractions and overloaded with information, their search for meaning is often short-circuited or interrupted.

In this context, smol tok is a means of facilitating their personal search for meaning - through questions and conversations that trigger reflection and clarification.



# SAMPLE 2 HOUR LESSON PLAN

The objectives of smol tok are to:

- create meaningful conversations
- build meaningful relationships
- facilitate self-reflection and self-direction

Specific questions can be pulled up to help students share and clarify their values and goals in a 3 stage process:

Briefing:	Aims and House Rules	5 minutes
Stage 1:	Mix & Mingle	15 minute ice-breaker
Stage 2:	Up Close & Personal	40 minute conversations
Stage 3:	Up Close & Personal	40 minute conversations
Debriefing:	Journaling	20 minutes



### BRIEFING (5 minutes)

- Describe your aims in playing smol tok
- Describe how the next 2 hours will go
- State the house rules clearly

### STAGE 1: MIX & MINGLE (15 minutes)

*The cards in this stage are past-oriented. These are intended to help students identify and acknowledge positive memories and feelings from their growing-up years.*

1. Each student is randomly assigned one of the following cards:
  - 'Cher \*
  - Oh Ah Beh Ah Som \*
  - Thank You You \*
  - Collector's Edition \*
  - Recess Time \*
  - Upgrading Works \*
2. To begin, players randomly pair up to ask each other the questions on their cards
3. Pairs can spend as much time as they like to share; after sharing, players exchange cards and move on to form other pairs with those they have not paired with
4. Rinse and repeat until the time limit is reached

\* from the **dun tok cok** booster pack set



### STAGE 2 & 3: UP-CLOSE & PERSONAL (40 minutes each)

*These cards are present and future-oriented to direct students to interpret their current situation and articulate a vision of the future.*

Stage 2 cards:

- Make Haste
- Favourite Pastime \*
- Catalyst
- Push Your Buttons
- Rallying Cry
- Everything Also Scared \*

Stage 3 cards:

- Pro Bono
- SG 100 \*
- Know No Fear
- Chiong \*
- PA System \*
- Epitaph

1. Divide students into small groups of 4 and assign the following cards to each group at the appropriate stage
2. Instruct students to lay the cards, face down, in a row
3. Players take turns to open any card and ask a question, one at a time; all players take turns to respond when ready
4. Follow-up questions from everyone are encouraged at any time; there's no time limit for answers

\* from the **dun tok cok** booster pack set





### DEBRIEFING (20 minutes)

*Bring the conversations to a close by helping students to recall and reflect on what they had said and heard. The aim is to invite ongoing conversation and reflection on these questions.*

- As a class, check-in with students on their smol tok experience
- Reiterate the house rules
- Ask students which specific questions made an impact and why; students may freely share their responses with the whole class; take 3 examples
- Instruct students to spend the remaining time journaling in response to the “Know No Fear” card; this is for their private reference
- Read more on the [impact of journaling](#)

As a class, play smol tok at the start and the middle of the year to track changes in students’ responses over time. It’s a good idea to encourage students to use smol tok and journal regularly. Students could also be encouraged to track their journal entries as they discern their own vocation and mission in life.



# SMOL TOK IN SCHOOL

smol tok is not just for students. Play with faculty and staff to build solidarity.

This toolkit has highlighted 18 cards that can be used to help students clarify their meaning in life. However, there are more than 100 cards from smol tok and dun tok cok that have not been mentioned here. Students can be encouraged to explore these cards on their own time.

There is no need for players to churn through all the cards in a single seating.

Every experience of playing smol tok will be unique. The answers that players give will change as their priorities and preferences evolve.

For subsequent bulk orders of 10 or more pieces of smol tok and/or dun tok cok, these can be made available at an institutional rate of \$25.00 per piece. Please email to request for a quote.

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