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## **Making Group-work Work: Ideas for Teaching Business Studies Derived from Kagan's Cooperative Learning Structures**

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**KEYWORDS** Cooperative Learning. Free Riding. Group Work. PIES Principles. Positive Interdependence. Social Loafing

**ABSTRACT** The purpose of this paper is to extend the dialogue about teaching collaboratively in the area of secondary school Business Studies. The paper suggests and describes opportunities for designing and using collaborative learning structures that incorporate Kagan's PIES principles. Examples of classroom group tasks that incorporate positive interdependence and individual accountability, equal participation and simultaneous interaction are given for teachers to adopt or adapt into their practices. The paper concludes by recommending that teachers should strive to design group tasks and group structures that incorporate positive interdependence and individual accountability since doing so will minimise social loafing and free riding, thereby increasing the probability of all students supporting each other in group-work, becoming fully engaged and learning effectively.