

Four – Two – One

This strategy helps students focus on the most significant ideas in a passage.

Teacher Preparation:

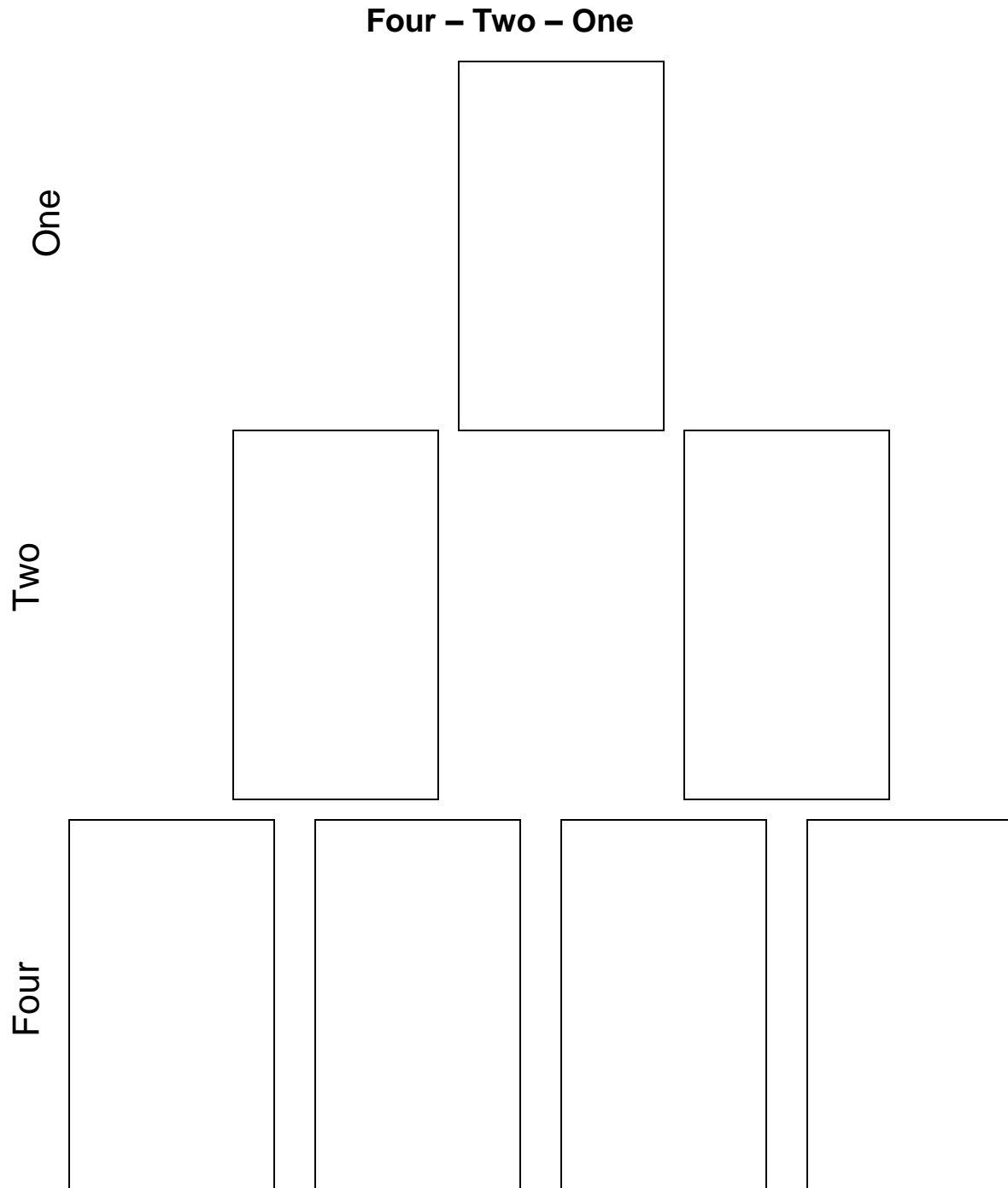
1. Select the reading passage.
2. Make a copy of the Four – Two – One graphic organizer (2-1-2) for each student.

Lesson Plan:

1. Students read the passage and individually generate four words that capture the most important aspects of the passage.
2. Each student shares with a partner. The pair then creates a common list of four words.
3. Each pair joins with another pair. The four students work together to narrow the list to two words.
4. Finally, determine the word that best represents the most important learning of the experience.
5. All final words are shared with the entire class. Each student then writes a summary with the words.

A variation of this activity: the students generate phrases or sentences instead of words.

Adapted from a workshop conducted by Daniel R. Moirao for the Academically Gifted Department of the Wake County Public School System in April, 2006



Tr Dan @aol.com

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