



Mystery Skype Roles for Students



By Skype Master Teacher, Pernille Ripp



Last year was my personal best for Mystery Skype. We did one almost every week, and by we, I mean my incredible students. They took ownership and pride in doing the calls quickly, professionally, and efficiently, and I often stood back in awe watching them unfold. My students were Mystery Skype masters by the end of the year and I look forward to start over with a new group each year.

So it was only natural for my students to develop the original jobs into something that worked better for them. So here you have an updated list of possible jobs for a great Mystery Skype call.

Often at the beginning of the year I ask students to try various jobs so that they can figure out which ones they are good at. I cannot wait to see how the students do this year and if you want to do a Mystery Skype with us via my [MEC profile](#).

Suggested Roles:

Supervisor – 1 student

This student oversees the entire operation and takes notes on what works and doesn't work. They lead the debriefing we have after every Skype call to discuss what we need to work on and be proud of.

Greeter -1 student

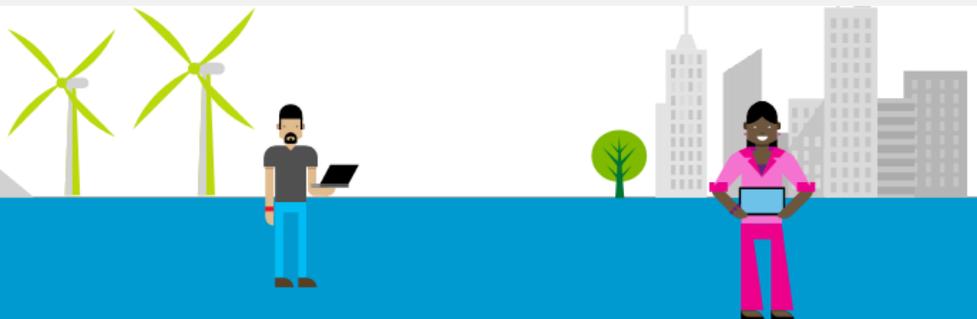
Does exactly that: greets the incoming class by speaking about our class and going over the rules. At the end of the call they are also the ones that thank for the call. In-between they may also take on another role.

Questioner – 1 or 2 students

They are the students that ask the yes or no questions, often it is beneficial if they have a decent grasp of geography and can come up with questions on the fly.

Think Tank members

The group working out the possible answers as to the location of the other class



Lead thinker

The leader of the Think Tank working out the location of the other class – this student needs to be a gentle leader that can keep everyone organized and on track. They ensure things runs smoothly.

Mappers – 2 students

Use Bing Maps to try to help with questions or find the answer. Should be connected to the Think Tank.

Wall map & atlas mappers

As many students as you want – part of the think tank but are using any map tools they can to come up with more questions.

Filter – 2 students or more

These students act as a filter between the runners and the questioners assessing the questions that are coming their way. They must pay close attention to what answers are and what has already been asked as the Think tank group often misses an answer. They can then use their common sense to filter the best questions to the questioners.

Note taker(s)

1 or 2 students – writes down all answers and questions during the call for easy access by filters and if any confusion occurs.

Answerer – 1 student

Answers yes or no to the questions from the other class and should have a good grasp of geography.

Runners – 3 students

The runners are responsible for communication between all the different posts and often wear signs or their shirts to identify them. We love the runners because they keep the chaos down.

Tweeter(s)

1 or 2 students – these students oversee the back channel through Twitter and add the extra layer of connectivity to the world live tweeting results and questions. Include the hashtags #msyterskype & #Skype2learn and add [@skypeclassroom](https://twitter.com/skypeclassroom) to loop in the Skype team into your adventures.

Reporters

2 students – these two take pictures and notes throughout the call to then write a blog post on our classroom blog after the call is done. That way we can show off all the great calls we get to be a part of.

