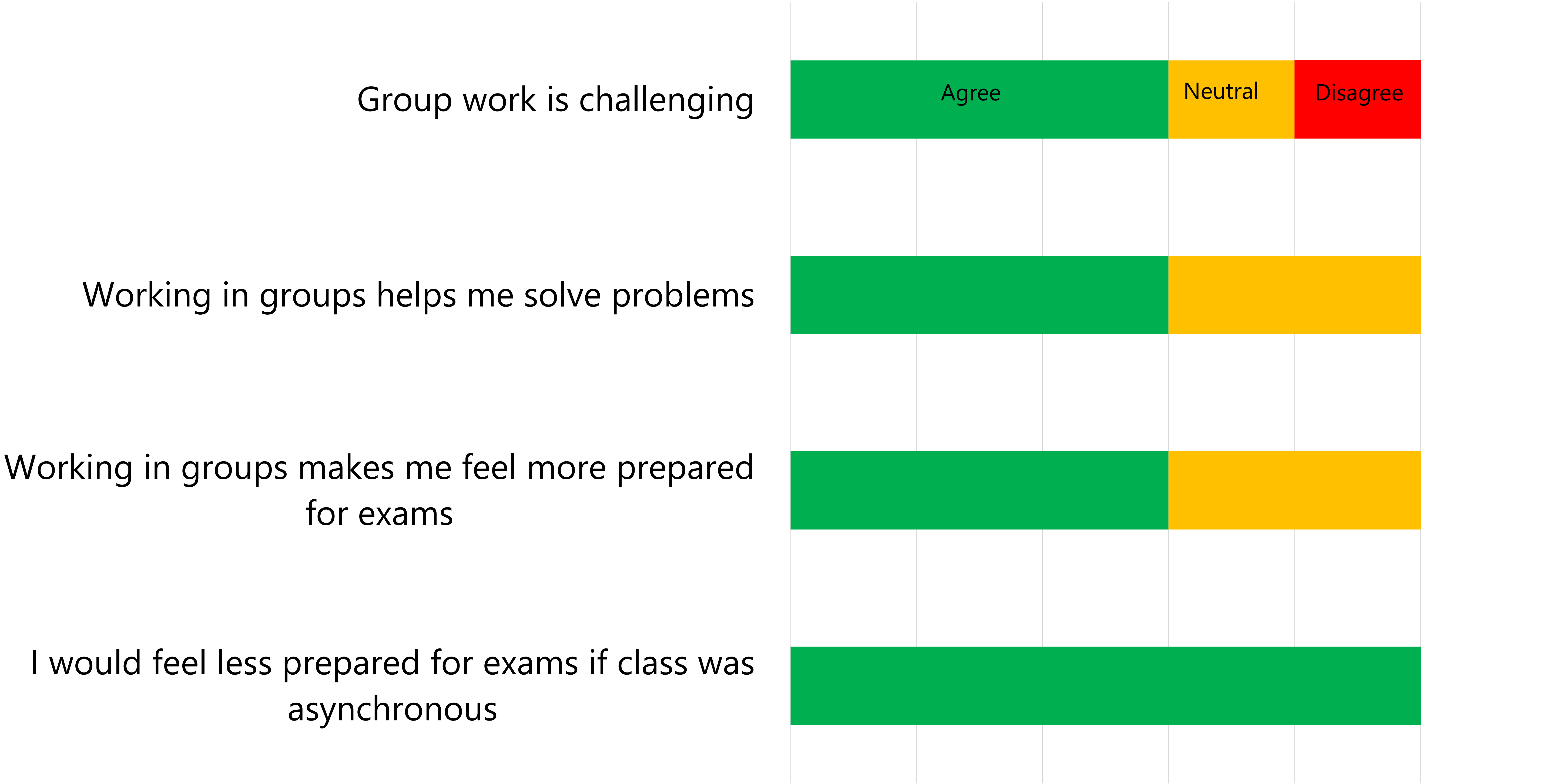


# Group Struggles Lead to Exam Success

**Background:** As a peer facilitator for STMATH 123 this quarter, I wanted to investigate if active learning styles helped students prepare for exams. In theory, the act of practicing problem solving skills in groups is more important than trying to absorb information. After surveying the class, students feel more confident in exams after working on practice problems in groups. As this evidence became clear, I tried to promote an environment of collaboration to work through problems.



## How can Peer Facilitators promote collaboration?

- 1** If a student has a question:
- Answer with a question
  - Ask another member of the group
  - Ask the student what their group members think

- 2** If students are working independently:
- Address the group as a whole
  - Ask someone to explain their answer to a problem
  - Bring up a common problem you have seen other groups get stuck on