

Socratic Seminar Guidelines and Rubric

Students: Here are the general guidelines for participating in a Socratic seminar and a rubric that will be used to assess your participation.

Guidelines for Participating

- Come prepared. Bring notes and bookmarked pages that are relevant to the discussion.
- Participate, participate, participate!
- Relate your comments to the text or its themes.
- Back up comments with evidence from the text.
- Try to comment on someone else's previous statement before you give yours.
- Personal stories should have a direct connection to the text.
- Keep discussion alive by asking open-ended, thought-provoking questions.
- Disagree with comments, not individuals. Never put anyone down.
- Use your speaking time fairly (contribute but do not control).

Participant Rubric

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-I offer enough solid analysis, without prompting, to move the conversation forward. -I demonstrate a deep knowledge of the text and the question. -I come to the seminar prepared, with notes and a marked or annotated text. -I show active listening. -I offer clarification and/or follow-up that extends the conversation. -I make comments that refer to specific parts of the text.	-I offer solid analysis without prompting. -I demonstrate a good knowledge of the text and the question. -I come to the seminar prepared, with notes and a marked or annotated text. -I show active listening, and offer clarification and/or follow-up. -I rely on the text to drive my comments.	-I offer some analysis but need prompting from the seminar leader. -I demonstrate a general knowledge of the text and question. -I am somewhat unprepared, with few notes and no marked or annotated text. -I actively listen, but do not offer clarification and/or follow-up to others' comments. -I rely more upon my opinion and less on the text to drive my comments.	-I offer little commentary. -I come to the seminar ill-prepared with little understanding of the text and question. -I do not listen to others and offer no commentary to further the discussion.