

Name _____ Period _____

Socratic Seminar Self-Reflection

One goal of seminars is to understand the ideas and thoughts of others through asking questions and listening to answers. This means that seminar participants must practice how to agree and disagree. Participants must be able to disagree without being disagreeable. In order to do so, the participants can use the following suggested ways of responding as a way of framing their thoughts before they speak. Speaking and responding in a calm and collaborative manner is essential to good discussion and dialogue.

1. I agree with _____ because, but I want to add another reason why I think _____ is true. (Give another reason.)
2. I disagree with _____ because . . .
3. I'm not sure why _____ said . . . Can you reword your comments to help me understand?
4. I understand your point, _____, but I want to add/disagree/give another side . . .
5. This is what I think you are saying. . . Is that correct?

Check those statements that you feel adequately describe your participation in the seminar.

- ___ 1. I came prepared for the seminar.
- ___ 2. I was courteous to the other students.
- ___ 3. I paused and thought before speaking.
- ___ 4. I listened to others tell their opinions.
- ___ 5. I kept an open mind for opinions different from my own.
- ___ 6. I acted as a positive role model for other students.
- ___ 7. I built on what was said just before I gave my opinion.
- ___ 8. I used fixed examples from the text to support statements.
- ___ 9. I felt comfortable speaking in the seminar.
- ___ 10. I gave my opinions clearly.

Give yourself a letter grade: A B C D F

How would you rate the seminar? (Check one)

- ___ Excellent (Everyone participated, listened, had good ideas, did not interrupt.)
- ___ Good (Generally, everyone participated but the seminar could have better ideas and behavior.)
- ___ Fair (Side talk, interruptions, students distracted.)
- ___ Poor (Lots of side talk, interruptions, and rude behavior.)

Summary of key ideas:

Reaction: Identify what someone said; write down his/her comment. React to his/her statement.

Explain how the Seminar influenced your thinking about the topic or the text(s).

Identify a personal goal for the next seminar: