

Name: _____
Mr. Wendel
Period _____
Date _____

Socratic Seminar Discussion Guide

Socrates believed that thinking for ourselves is more important than filling our heads with right answers. One way we can do this is by digging further into written text, and asking questions about text that give deeper insight and meaning. Use this discussion guide to help you prepare and evaluate our discussion in class.

Pre-Seminar

Text Assigned: _____

- 1) Did you annotate the text for important details, clarifications, and summaries? Did you write questions in the margins? Write, write, write! (use sticky notes if the book belongs to the library)
Yes _____ No _____
- 2) Choose and complete three of the six sentence starters. These may serve as your questions during the seminar
This text reminds me of _____
Two parts of text that are similar are _____
Do you agree that the big ideas seem to be _____
Do you agree that _____
What does it mean when the author says _____
Another point of view is _____
- 3) Write one additional question of your own here:

Post-Seminar

Listening and Speaking

- 1) Did I **respectfully listen** to other participants and **speak in turn** Yes _____ No _____
- 2) Did I **make eye contact** with other participants as I spoke, not just the leader Yes _____ No _____
- 3) Did I **raise my voice** enough to be heard by the entire group Yes _____ No _____
- 4) Did I **avoid negative or distracting behavior** like putting my head down, texting, etc. Yes _____ No _____

Building the discussion

- 5) Did I **build** on what others said, not just my own opinions? Yes _____ No _____
- 6) Did I **show respect** for alternative views? Yes _____ No _____
- 7) Did I **say positive things** about another's comment? Yes _____ No _____
- 8) Was I **prepared enough** before the seminar? Yes _____ No _____
- 9) Did I **present at least one question or support** during the discussion? Yes _____ No _____

Referring to the Text

- 10) Did I **refer to specific parts of text** in the discussion? Yes _____ No _____

In what ways do you feel the discussion helped you better understand the text? _____

In what ways could the discussion have gone better? _____
