



Civil Discourse Walk-Through Notetaker: AWARE, Classroom Environment, and Teacher Facilitation

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The acronym AWARE and look-fors are adapted from [Sphere's Civil Discourse Primer](#). You may wish to highlight or circle look-fors on the chart during the walk-through. You may choose to focus on one area in the notetaker for notes and feedback.

Date and Time	
Teacher	
Lesson Topic	

Student Actions: AWARE

AWARE Category of Skills	Potential Look-Fors Student Actions	Notes
Assert	- Clearly stating viewpoints with credible facts - Acknowledgment of areas of agreement and connection with others	
Wonder	- Consider other perspectives and ask questions about their viewpoints - Reflect on responses	
Accept	- Openness to the fact that others may not change their viewpoint or may be open to changing one's own viewpoint - Openness to disagreements - Listens and responds to others without pressuring other students to take on their viewpoint - Students stay engaged and do not quit conversation due to frustration	
Respect	- Active listening - Respectful language and avoidance of stereotypes or name-calling - Positive body language, voice, and tone during disagreements	
Establish	- Articulate established goal(s) for discussions and work toward achieving these - Recognize tension and redirect or support other students - Show positive and collegial relationships with one another despite disagreements - Can reflect on meeting goal(s)	

Teacher Actions: Classroom Environment and Facilitation

Teacher Actions	Potential Look-Fors Ideas, but not limited to	Notes
Developing Classroom Environment and Culture	• Civil discourse norms posted or digitally available; teacher may redirect to norms as needed • Seating arrangements may be flexible or adaptable for student discussions and collaboration • Reflective practices and community building to make the classroom a safe space for sharing differing viewpoints • Variety of resources provided for student research	
Discussion Management	• Teacher modeling and implementation of AWARE • Civil discourse strategies or formats implemented (examples) • Goals for discussion shared and understood by students • Questions to support discourse and viewpoint diversity • Models respectful listening, uses neutral language, and acknowledges multiple perspectives • Encourages quieter students to participate and helps manage students who may monopolize the conversation • De-escalates as necessary with redirection to students with supporting norms	