

Name: _____

Date: _____

Block: _____

Discussion Circle Expectations

1. Every student is required to speak **at least twice** during discussion circles. Participation may include asking questions, replying to another student, and sharing general thoughts.
 2. Only one student may speak at a time. Students should not be talking over each other. If more than one student would like to speak, the teacher can facilitate **turn taking**.
 3. All students should be **respectful** of other people's comments and opinions even if they don't agree. This also means they should be actively listening when another person is talking.
 4. Respond **thoughtfully** to each other. When it is your turn, don't just start a new, unrelated topic. Build on what the other person has said with a **relevant** question or comment.
 5. Students should take brief **notes** during the discussion. Include interesting ideas, concepts that confuse you, and things you want to know more about.
 6. **Everyone** should participate, not just a couple people. Come **prepared** to the discussion with pre-written questions or comments about the topic or reading.
 7. You also need to be a focused **listener**- this means no side conversations, no phones, and no other distractions or disengagement.
 8. Students will be **graded** based on their active listening skills, thoughtful participation, and preparedness.
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PRE-DISCUSSION:

Before the discussion circle, use the space below to brainstorm and take notes about the topic or text to be discussed. Include specific details about the topic, your own opinions, and questions you can pose to the group.

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POST DISCUSSION NOTE TAKING ORGANIZER

I agree that...

I disagree that...

Wow- great insight...

I'm confused or curious about...

Interesting question...

Notes of your choice...

Speaking & Listening: Discussion Circle Rubric

*10= exemplary, 9= proficient, 8= approaching skills, 7= needs improvement,
6= unsatisfactory, <5= skills not evidenced (F), 0= no attempt made*

<p style="text-align: center;">Discussion Circle Rubric</p> <p>Preparation: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-discussion brainstorming notes <p>Listening: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus during circle & post discussion notes <p>Speaking: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Frequency & quality of discussion participation <p style="text-align: right;">Total: _____ /30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Discussion Circle Rubric</p> <p>Preparation: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-discussion brainstorming notes <p>Listening: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus during circle & post discussion notes <p>Speaking: _____ /10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Frequency & quality of discussion participation <p style="text-align: right;">Total: _____ /30</p>
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