

“The Two Harriets” - Evaluating & Synthesizing Discourse Task

Directions: In your small table groups, take 15 minutes to share your thoughts about each of the following discussion questions. Practice using textual evidence to support your arguments. Space has been provided for you to organize or jot out some of your ideas, but it is not required.

(5 min.) Text-to-Self: Reflect on the accomplishments of Harriet Tubman and Harriet Beecher Stowe. Would you have been able to do the same heroic actions if you were in their shoes? Why or why not?

(5 min.) Text-to-Text: Consider our previous reading, “Pink & Say”. Out of Pinkus, Sheldon, Harriet Tubman, and Harriet Beecher Stowe, who do you believe was the most heroic and why? Who do you consider the least heroic and why?

(5 min.) Text-to-World: How do the heroic actions of Harriet Tubman and Harriet Beecher Stowe live on today in 2021? What lessons can everyone learn from these two women about fighting for justice and making change in the world?

Discussion Roles:

Moderator: This person makes sure that everyone shares ideas during the discussion and that no one person takes over the whole conversation. They might ask someone to share their ideas who has not spoken yet. If there are issues about respect, the moderator handles these disagreements.
Timekeeper: This person keeps the discussion on-track and on-time. In a group of 4 people, each person should have about 1 minute to talk. This person might use a timer to encourage their teammates to keep their answers brief and can interrupt someone and let them know their time is up. They also remind the group that the 5-minute discussion time is about to close.
Advocate & Agitator: This person keeps the discussion lively, but respectful. If there is too much agreement about a discussion topic, they might ask the group to argue the opposite opinion to push their thinking. If there is too much disagreement, they might ask team members to find one thing they can agree on.
Summarizer & Synthesizer: This person's job is to listen closely to everyone's ideas and perspectives. At the end of the discussion, they share back the big ideas that the group talked about and the most interesting and key details that came up during the discussion. This person shares out to the whole group when we come back together.

Discussion Protocol:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The moderator reads the discussion question aloud to the group and decides the order to share. 2. The timekeeper puts 1 minute on the timer for the first speaker. 3. The first person has 1 minute to share their answer to the question. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If the first person finishes early, other group members can ask them questions or build on to their ideas. 4. When the timer goes off, the timekeeper starts the 1-minute timer again and the second person speaks. 5. Go back to Steps 2 and 3 and let the next person speak. 6. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until everyone has shared out. 7. If there is too much agreement between all the members of the group, the Advocate & Agitator might ask the group member to imagine what other answers could also be reasonable and explain their thinking. 8. At the final minute, the Summarizer & Synthesizer wraps up everything that the group said and any highlights from the discussion.

Sentence Starters:

"X makes a great point about...because..."	"I agree with X's point about...because..."	"I disagree with X's point about...and here's why..."
"I'm not sure I agree with X's answer because..."	"I'm not sure what you mean, X...can you say it differently?"	"What details from the text made you think that way, X?"

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