

What is Socratic Seminar?

An open-ended, thoughtful, and collaborative dialogue based on a piece of literature, art, primary source, or quote. All students participate and give respect to each involved in the seminar. Students are encouraged to share their best thinking and viewpoints in order to gain a shared understanding of what they read or evaluated.



Purpose of Socratic Seminar:

- Utilizes different multiple intelligences (especially artistic, and linguistic)
- Distinguishes between relevant and irrelevant details
- Manipulate, compare, contrast, and identify actively with one or more texts
- Makes connections: text-to-text, text-to-self, and/or text-to-world
- Encourages deep reflection and divergent versus convergent thinking
- Expands familiarity with texts and pieces from many different time periods and cultures
- Builds a community of inquisitive scholars and readers

Seminar Etiquette:

- Address each other as Mr. and Miss
- Group is seated facing each other
- Everyone must be prepared for seminar
- Be courteous
- Be patient

