

Rules for Honors Seminar

- Be courteous at all times
- Listen while others are talking
- Support all comments with evidence from the source
- Avoid raising your hand to talk – instead jump in at an appropriate time
- When disagreeing with a previous comment, disagree with the idea rather than attack the person
- Address the group when talking, not the teacher

I am responsible for...

- Asking questions about what I have read, heard, and seen.
- Asking for clarification of any passage I have read but which I do not understand.
- Being courteous and respectful of my peers.
- Pausing and thinking before I respond to the facilitator's questions or to a comment made by a peer.
- Giving my opinions clearly.
- Making judgments that I can defend with textual evidence
- Explaining to others how I have inferred an idea by exploring the passage that has led me to this conclusion.
- Locating facts and examples in the text that can be cited as evidence for a particular argument.
- Listening attentively and patiently as peers share their ideas.
- Listening critically to others' opinions and taking issue with inaccuracies or illogical reasoning.
- Clarifying information and lending support to a peer's argument.
- Moving the seminar forward to new concepts.
- Maintaining an open mind to a diversity of opinions.
- Listening acutely to a peer's entire position before taking issue with it.
- Searching for connections with previous readings or prior studies.
- Avoiding repetitiveness by developing stronger listening skills.
- Being willing to change my opinion if more information is given or if my reasoning has been flawed.
- Seeing the relevance of the reading to my world.
- Being prepared by having read my text thoroughly and reflectively.
- Having marked key issues from my text so I can identify the evidence.
- Exhibiting mature behavior with patience and self-control.

Four Types of Questions:

1. World Connection Question: Write a question connecting the text to the real world.
2. Close-Ended Question: Write a question about the text that will help everyone in the class come to an agreement about events or characters in the text. This question usually has a “correct” answer.
3. Open-Ended Question: Write an insightful question about the text that will require proof and group discussion and “construction of logic” to discover or explore the answer to the question.
4. Universal Theme/Core Question: Write a question dealing with a theme(s) of the text that will encourage group discussion about the universality of the text.

Text I'm interested in discussing (list page numbers and lines if applicable):

Prepare at least 3 of each of the following questions:

World Connection:

World Connection:

World Connection:

Close-Ended:

Close-Ended:

Close-Ended:

Open-Ended:

Open-Ended:

Open-Ended:

Universal Theme/Core:

Universal Theme/Core:

Universal Theme/Core:

What two themes were discussed that interested you the most and why? What textual evidence was provided including page numbers?
