

Socratic Seminar Grading Rubric

For A-level seminar participation, the student does almost everything listed below.

For B-level seminar participation, the student does many things listed below well, but may leave out 2-3 major categories.

For C-level seminar participation, the student speaks and completes at least two categories listed below.

If you are shy, you can still get a C- if you speak at least once.

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| <p>Perspective</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes comments that are on topic, concise, and relevant - Offers opinion when questions are posed - Responds to the ideas of peers - Challenges peers' ideas with counterclaims - Offers new ideas and/or solutions |
| <p>Evidence/Text References</p> <p><i>*A must for A-level Seminar Participation</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Backs up claims with evidence - Uses relevant examples (hypothetical or real life) to support ideas and spark discussion - Uses evidence from other sources and other course content to support claims - Makes relevant text connections - Uses evidence from the text to back up their opinions |
| <p>Communication and Clarification</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrates active listening - Uses conversation movers - Does not monopolize the conversation - Invites others into the conversation - Clarifies the idea of another student - Asks clarifying questions - Defines terms or concepts - Connects back to the question at hand |
| <p>Connections</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes connections to other events or topics - Makes a personal connection to what is being discussed - Makes connections to other course content or other classes |
| <p>Seminar Leadership</p> <p><i>*A must for A-level Seminar Participation!</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poses original questions for the group - Routinely helps others to participate - Keeps the group on topic - Clears up major confusion for the group - Drops intellectual bombs that elevate the level of dialogue for the whole group |

Seminar Prep and Guidance: Economics Seminar

Essential Question: Is Capitalism Good For the Poor?

Time and Date: Thursday 3/12, 11:00am to Noon. Bring your lunch. Expect it to last 1 hour.

Resources: See my documents page for resources. You may use all resources at your disposal, from our class time/activities, to the articles linked on my documents page, to any outside information or personal experience that you have.

Some questions to guide your Seminar preparation:

- What is capitalism, and what is poverty?
- Where do you think poverty 'comes from?'
- What arguments do people use when they make the claim 'capitalism creates poverty?'
- What arguments do people use when they make the claim 'capitalism can fix poverty?'
- Which of the two arguments above do you find most convincing? Use evidence to support your perspective.
- Given our evidence and what you've read, are there any ways to make the institutions of capitalism better equipped to deal with poverty and the poor?
- Looking for more? How do you feel about...
 - Foreign aid?
 - Micro-loans?
 - The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank
 - Strategies within the United States, Colorado, or Durango to alleviate poverty

Grading Scale: (Keep in mind, this is replacing the exam, so the grade scale must match the examination)

The seminar is out of 62 points

A-Range: 56-62 points

B-Range: 50-55 points

C-Range: 44-49 points

Not passing: 43 points and below