

## **Socratic Seminar Rubric**

### **4**

- frequently contributes meaningfully to the discussion
- uses specific references to the text or film
- builds on another's point explains ideas thoroughly
- explains ideas clearly
- initiates new ideas
- pays attention when others speak
- makes direct references to points made by other students
- includes others through verbal exchange or invitation into conversation

### **3**

- occasionally contributes to the discussion
- refers to the text or film in general ways
- occasionally refers to another's point
- attempts to explain ideas
- may initiate a new idea
- pays attention when others speak

### **2**

- rarely contributes to the discussion
- shows little evidence of knowledge regarding the text or film
- presents unexplained ideas
- makes tangential remarks
- becomes involved sporadically
- rarely pays attention when others speak

### **1**

- makes little or no contribution to the discussion
- no evidence of knowledge regarding the text or film
- speaks off topic
- shows uninvolved attitude
- interrupts when others speak
- dominates
- makes personal criticisms of the ideas of others
- shows disrespect
- attempts to obstruct the discussion process
- does not pay attention to others



## **Scoring Students - Socratic Seminar**

1. Observer(s) maintains score sheet during discussion by checking categories on the rubric when a student shows evidence of that discussion trait.
2. Continue to place marks in the identified categories to indicate repetition of a discussion behavior.
3. Compare the individual's score sheet to the overall descriptions on the rubric.
4. Final rubric score is determined by the number which has the most identified discussion traits.
5. Each score can be converted to a grade by assigning a value to #1. For instance, if #1 = 25 points, then a 3 = 75%. If #1 = 5 points, then a 3 = 15/20.



ESPA Speaking Rubric				
	Score Point 1 Inadequate Command	Score Point 2 Limited Command	Score Point 3 Adequate Command	Score Point 4 Strong Command
<b>Content/Organization</b>	<p>Has little or no focus on central idea or topic</p> <p>Offers insufficient or unrelated details</p> <p>May have an opening or closing</p> <p>May have little or no conclusion/opinion</p> <p>Has little or no varied sentence structure and word choice</p>	<p>Attempts to focus on a central idea or topic</p> <p>Lists related details but provides no elaborations</p> <p>May have an opening or closing</p> <p>Attempts to form a conclusion/opinion</p> <p>Has little varied sentence structure and word choice</p>	<p>Conveys a central idea or topic</p> <p>Provides sufficient details; may have some elaboration</p> <p>Has an opening or closing</p> <p>Includes a conclusion/opinion that is linked to central idea or topic</p> <p>May use varied sentence structure and word choice</p>	<p>Maintains clear focus on a central idea or topic</p> <p>Elaborates details to support central idea</p> <p>Has an opening and closing</p> <p>Includes a clearly stated conclusion/opinion that is linked to central idea or topic</p> <p>Uses varied sentence structure and word choice</p>
<b>Delivery (Spoken)</b>	<p>Exhibits little or no awareness of audience</p> <p>Speaks too softly or loudly with little or no expression; gives no evidence of pacing or intonation</p>	<p>Exhibits some awareness of audience through minimal or excessive eye contact or gestures</p> <p>Speaks too softly or loudly with little or no expression; gives little evidence of pacing or intonation</p>	<p>Attends to audience through eye contact and gestures</p> <p>Speaks audibly with expression; attempts to use pacing and intonation</p>	<p>Clearly attends to audience through good eye contact and gestures</p> <p>Speaks audibly with expression; uses pacing and intonation effectively</p>

NR No Response Student refuses or is unable to complete the speaking task  
OR Off Topic The topic of the student's presentation is not linked to the speaking prompt

**Appendix J: Socratic Seminar Rubric  
and General Public Speaking Rubric  
South Brunswick**