

Name:

Period:

Socratic Seminar Prep Sheet

In an effort to make our Socratic Seminar successful, every student needs to fill out this prep sheet so that every seminar participant comes to the discussion having done the necessary preparation. Remember, you are responsible for the quality of the seminar. The quality of the seminar will depend entirely on your preparation before the seminar as well as our willingness to participate during the seminar.

This sheet is due at the start of class on the day of the seminar. It must be completed BEFORE class starts. Rushing to fill it out at the start of the class does not give you sufficient time to really seek out the best questions for the discussion.

- Write **at least four discussable questions** about the book. Discussable questions are either *interpretive* or *evaluative*. Be sure your questions are original and are questions you are curious about. This will make for more interesting and meaningful discussion. (Consult page 69 in your Reference book if you need some reminders.)
- Write **two specific observations or comments** you have about the book. These are observations that could help you frame new questions or use to ask for other students' opinions on your observations.
 - **Starter phrases for the Observation/Comment** section:
 - What puzzles me is...
 - I'm confused about...
 - Don't you think this is similar to...
 - Another point of view about ____ is...
 - What does it mean when the author says...
 - It was really frustrating when...because...
 - It was interesting that...
- Write at least **one quotation** from the book that you think could inspire a meaningful discussion of a character, plot, or theme in the book.

Question 1:

Question 2:

Question 3:

Question 4:

Observation/Comment 1:

Observation/Comment 2:

Important Quotation and what you want to talk about regarding the quotation.

Observation Sheet

As you observe the discussion, keep track of the main topics and questions being discussed. You will also be asked to evaluate some of the argumentation and analysis displayed during the seminar.

Section 1: Topic/Question Overview (Answer both)

What was the best question asked? What made it a good question? What answer did you have for it?

What was the most interesting idea posed from a participant? What did it make you consider that perhaps you hadn't thought of before?

Section 2: Evaluation of Analysis (Answer 2 of 3)

What was the best example of a clear claim, evidence, and warrant given by a participant? Explain.

What was an example of a claim made without clear evidence? What evidence from the text would have helped prove this claim? Or, if there is none to be found, what evidence can you give to prove the claim invalid?

What is an example of evidence provided without a clear explanation? What explanation/warrant could have helped clear up the evidence?