

# Suggested Seminar Rules and Participation Rubric

## Suggested Seminar Rules

- Students must talk to one another, not just to the teacher.
- Students must listen to one another. To ensure this happens, they must either address the previous speaker or offer a reason for changing the subject.
- Students must participate at least once during the seminar. If someone called upon has nothing to say, the appropriate response is "I'm not sure what I think about that, but please come back to me."
- Hand-raising is not always necessary. Wait for natural pauses to offer comments.
- Silence is part of a seminar, too. People are thinking.
- If necessary, read aloud from the text to push the discussion forward.
- Only one student speaks at a time.
- Repeat: "I am a voice in the world; I deserve to be heard!"

## Suggested Participation Rubric

<b>Excellent</b>	Follows seminar rules. Provides insight on a variety of issues. Exhibits an understanding of the text. Respects the ideas of others.
<b>Good</b>	Exhibits same behaviors as "excellent," but does not comment as frequently.
<b>O.K.</b>	Attempts to follow seminar rules. Shares one or two comments. Respects the ideas of others.
<b>Poor</b>	Does not speak. Does not follow seminar rules.

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