To Kill A Mockingbird Oral Analysis

Instead of writing an analysis you may choose to participate in the class Socratic Seminar on **Sept. 12.**

You will be graded on a scale of 1-3 in the following areas: Personal opinion, personal experience, textual evidence and clarifying questions. Just like an essay, the conversation needs to make sense and build fluidly.

What you need to know

1. A Seminar is a student-led discussion about a literary text guided by questions and answers.

2. “Socratic” refers to Socrates, an ancient Greek philosopher who came up with the process of asking questions to direct thinking.

3. This activity is designed to express your opinions, ask questions, think about ideas and practice the fine art of conversation. It promotes critical thinking, open-mindedness, and consideration of ideas, values, and issues.

4. During the Seminar, please respect each other and remember that people have different perceptions that can also be correct.

5. Listen and respond to others with consideration and respect.

6. Address comments to the group; no side conversations.

7. **You are in charge**. Talk to each other (not to me), so there’s no need to raise hands.

8. Don’t interrupt or monopolize the conversation. So everyone may contribute, please speak *no more than 2 times* during the course of the Seminar. If two people start to speak at once, one of them must let the other one go. Let the other person go if your comment will take us towards a ***new*** question/perspective (away from what the last person just said).

9. *Do not repeat an idea or an answer someone else has already expressed.* You may refer to what he/she said, but agree or disagree using textual examples or ideas that are **new** to the discussion. Make sure that comments are relevant considering the “question on the table.”

10. “Throw alley-oops”: include/encourage a person who hasn’t spoken by asking him/her a question.

11. Don’t be afraid of silences; it might be just long enough to give someone the courage they need to speak up.

12. **Use your text!** Speakers**,direct us to specific pages**. Listeners, go there.

13. Listen carefully to what the last person said rather than trying to formulate what you will say next.

14. Paraphrase essential elements of another's ideas before responding.

15. Speak up so that all can hear you.

16. Use precise language vs. slang terms.