SOCRATIC CIRCLE ANALYTIC RUBRIC

Observer	Participant

	Excellent	Fair	Unsatisfactory
Conduct	 Demonstrates respect for the learning process. Has patience with different opinions and complexity. Brings others into the conversation, Moves the conversation forward; Speaks to all of the participants; Avoids talking too much. 	 Participates and expresses a belief that his/her ideas are important in understanding the text May make insightful comments but is either too forceful or too shy and does not contribute to the progress of the conversation. Tends to debate, not dialogue. Addresses only the teacher or leader, not the group. 	 Displays little respect for the learning process. Argumentative Takes advantage of minor distractions/ Speaks to individuals rather than to ideas. Arrives unprepared without notes, pencil/pen or perhaps even without the text.
Speaking & Reasoning	 Understands question before answering. Cites evidence from text; Moves conversation forward, makes connections between ideas. Resolves apparent contradictory ideas. Considers others' viewpoints, not only his/her own. Avoids bad logic. Responds to questions of their own free will. 	 Responds to questions but may have to be called upon by others. Has read the text but not put much effort into preparing questions and ideas for the seminar. Comments are connected to the topic, but may not flow logically in conversation. 	 Extremely reluctant to participate even when called upon. Comments are illogical and meaningless. May mumble or express incomplete ideas. Little or no account taken of previous comments or important ideas in the text.
Reading/ Background Knowledge	 Pays attention to details. Writes down questions. Responses take into account all participants. Points out faulty logic respectfully. Overcomes distractions. Thoroughly familiar with the text. Brings in outside examples. Responds to topic with knowledge beyond the in-class discussion as evidence of research. Pronounces words correctly. 	 Appears to find some ideas unimportant while responding to others. May have to have questions or confusions repeated due to inattention Takes a few notes during the seminar in response to ideas and comments. Appears to have read or skimmed the text, but shows a limited understanding. Shows difficulty with vocabulary, mispronounces important words. Key concepts are partially understood, applied in simplistic ways. Some evidence of serious reflection prior to the seminar. 	 Appears uninvolved in the seminar. Comments display complete misinterpretation of questions or comments of other participants. Student is unprepared for the seminar. Important words, phrases, ideas in the text are unfamiliar. Misunderstands key concepts No evidence of serious reflection.

(Adapted with permission from Paul Raider. Edited by Dainean Nelson)