



Discussion based student learning

Many teachers speak for 60–70% of a class period, leaving less time for students to ask questions and verbally work out their own ideas. A Harkness discussion places teachers in the role of moderator, and the responsibility is with students to drive the conversation to foster agency and intellectual effort.

At school, pre-visit:

<p>Creativity <i>Imagine this.</i> You and your family are removed from your home by armed soldiers. You did not know this was going to happen. You're not allowed to take a bag with you.</p>	<p>Collaboration <i>Discuss this.</i> You and all your neighbours are marched to a train station and loaded into wagons with no food, drink, or toilet facilities for a three day journey.</p>	<p>Critical thinking <i>List.</i> What are your biggest challenges?</p>	<p>Success criteria Students are able to intuit some of what teenagers in the Holocaust often experienced.</p>
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At the museum:

<p>Creativity Look at the recent images of Auschwitz. What purpose is served by keeping Auschwitz like this?</p>	<p>Collaboration With a classmate, study the photos of the survivors, who were children or teenagers during the Holocaust. Discuss the photos – what emotions, states of being, can you see?</p>	<p>Critical thinking Why have humans over centuries of evolution practiced genocide (the deliberate killing of a large number of people from a particular nation or ethnic group)?</p>	<p>Success criteria Students respond to the exhibition.</p>
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Back at school:

<p>Creativity The <u>bystander</u> effect is when a group of people witness something like bullying or assault and don't do anything to stop it. Why does this happen? What could be the reasons?</p>	<p>Collaboration In a situation like the Holocaust, people choose to be <u>bystanders</u> or <u>upstanders</u>. With your classmate discuss the implications of each. Could propaganda convince you to be a bystander?</p>	<p>Critical thinking An <u>upstander</u> is someone who intervenes on behalf of a person who is being attacked. Think about yourself – are you an upstander?</p>	<p>Success criteria Students can speak about the Holocaust with more insight and knowledge.</p>
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