

Ground rules & boundaries – ToK¹

Instructions:

1. The teacher acts as a facilitator who asks the questions. Sit in a circle and have a different student answer first each time you begin a new question. Start on your left or right, and work your way around the circle.
2. Everyone, facilitator/teacher included, must answer each question. Instruct students to listen carefully to each other's responses.
3. Instruct the student to try to stay relatively serious. This possibly won't work, but it's best to start off this way.
4. Instruct students to keep their answers short; things should move relatively quickly, and they have an opportunity to elaborate later on a question or questions, of their choice.

Questions:

1. What is your name?
2. What is the colour of the ocean?
3. What is your favourite way to spend your free time?
4. Who is your hero or heroine? (If can't think of one – who do you admire?)
5. If you had to be an animal other than a human being, what would you be?
6. Name one purpose of art.
7. Name one purpose of science.
8. Name one purpose of technology.
9. What does the word "equality" mean to you? (The first thought, image, definition, that comes to mind is fine.)
10. Who is the most important person in the world today?
11. Who is the biggest rogue in the world today?
12. Do you know whether or not God exists?
13. Name one reason to study economics.
14. How do you know that it's wrong to lie?
15. If you had an hour left to live before the end of the world, how would you spend the time?

¹ Thank you to Carol Bendall for first putting this together.

16. If you won a contest with a million US dollar prize, what is the first thing you'd do with the money?
17. Which answer that you've heard so far surprised you the most?
18. Who, if anyone, took risks in giving their answers?
19. On a scale of one to ten, ten being the highest, how honest would you say the group was?
20. Who did you learn the most about?
21. What, if anything, interfered with your ability to listen?

Writing assignment (at home or in class):

Students may either:

- A. Respond to something someone else said. OR
- B. Elaborate on a question of your choice? OR
- C. Change one of their answers, and explain why.

Responses should be about a paragraph, or half an A4 page, in length.