Choices Through History Scripted Discussions

IB History

**Introduction**

To showcase your advanced critical thinking and discussion skills, you are going to create a spirited discussion around a historical debate from a topic that we have studied in our IB curriculum. Using the resources provided from Brown University’s Choices series, you will design a small Socratic Discussion that presents the issue, represents the different possible options and ultimately reaches a reasoned conclusion.

**Structure**

Your discussion should be approximately 15 minutes in length and include:

1. An overview of the issue with a brief summary of the historical context
2. The “current” dilemma and the choice that needs to be made
3. An opening statement from each of the options representing their choice and justifications of why it is the best way forward
4. A lively discussion where different members challenge the merits and highlight the dangers of the other options

You may choose the reach the conclusion (aka “the best choice”) during the discussion or you can share the conclusion after the scripted portion is complete. Your discussion can be filmed or can be performed live on May 30/31st.

**Resources/Procedure**

Mr. Johnson will provide you with the Choices series for the topic you have been assigned. This, combined with your own knowledge of the topic, should be sufficient to inform your discussion but additional research is allowed. Please make sure that you try to keep your discussion within the historical reality of the dilemma (no time machines).

You will have the next two class periods to prepare your discussion and you will present on the third day. Here is a suggested procedure:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| May 23/24 | May 28/29 | May 30/31 |
| Read and Process Background Information on Your Topic  Assign Options to Individual Group Members  Prepare Notes for Each Options | Create Discussion Script  Rehearse for Live Performance  **Or**  Film Your Discussion | Present/Perform Your Discussion |
| HW: Complete your option notes | HW: Prepare to present your discussion |  |