

LEARNING EXCHANGE PROTOCOL

Last Word: Text based seminar

Purpose: To understand text and share our understandings:

The purpose of the discussion protocol is to give all members of a group the opportunity to have their ideas, understandings, and perspectives enhanced by hearing from others. Using this protocol, groups can explore one or multiple articles, clarify their thinking, and have assumptions and beliefs questioned in order to gain deeper meaning. The protocol was adapted for participants that have *read different articles based on one large theme*. Groups should include three to five participants.

Before the Seminar

Everyone reads their chosen text, underlining or highlighting the “most” significant ideas.

Refer to the text – challenge others to go to the text

Round 1

Step #1 - Roles

Identify a facilitator and a timekeeper.

Step #2 (3 Minutes)

Sit in a circle. The first person begins with a brief overview of their article and then reads what “struck him or her the most” from the article (one thought or one quote only) and why the quote is significant

Step #3 (1 Minute response per person)

Each person in the circle responds to that quote and what the presenter said.

Step #4 (1 Minute)

The person that began has the “final word.” In no more than one minute the presenter responds to what has been said. Now, what is s/he thinking? What is his or her reaction to what has been said?

Step #5

The next person in the circle then shares his or her highlighted piece of the text from their article. This process continues until each person has had a round to share a quote.

Round 2

Step #1 (3 Minutes)

Sit in a circle. Go back to the first person for a new round. During this round, focus on connections that you made to your article from the other articles..

Step #2 (1 Minute response per person)

Each person in the circle responds.

Step #4 (1 Minute)

The person that began has the “final word.” In no more than one minute the presenter responds to what has been said. Now, what is s/he thinking? What is her/his reaction to what has been said?

Step #5

Continue this process so that each participants leads the conversation.

Final Step

As a small group, use the whiteboard tool to create a visual with text that identifies key ideas from the readings and how the connections among the readings.

Adapted from Deb Brozka
Final Word,
National School Reform Faculty