

Skills

Activity for the opening scene of HBO’s “The Newsroom.”

**Objective:** To observe, discuss, and learn proper and improper ways to participate in conversation.

1) Watch the video.

2) You have been assigned one of five characters from the video. (Check the person you have been assigned)

- Person 1: Angry Woman on the Stage
- Person 2: Moderator (the Man Asking the Questions)
- Person 3: Angry Man on the Stage (“Freedom and Freedom”)
- Person 4: Man in the Middle (“New York Jets”)
- Person 5: Blonde Student Who Asked the Question

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3) **INDIVIDUAL ANALYSIS:** Imagine you are the person assigned to you. While watching the video again, focus on being that person. After the video, answer the following questions:

a) How did you feel?

b) What was wrong with the way you were spoken to?

c) What was wrong with the way you spoke to others?

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4) **Discuss:** Group with classmates who were assigned the same character as you. Discuss each of the questions above. Make sure to discuss similar AND differing responses and to understand the responses of your group members (you do not need to write your groups’.

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5) **Discuss.** Still in the group with classmates who were assigned the same character as you, from the point of view of your character, discuss the following questions based on your experiences from the video and your previous group discussion. Answer the following questions as a group (you will need to write down the questions from the screen).

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6) **Application.** As a class, discuss the following questions (you will need to write down the questions from the screen).