1.3 Fishbowl discussion scenarios

**Scenario One**

Four students have been working on a project together for three weeks. Each person is expected to contribute an equal amount to the project and each student will receive the same grade at the end. As a result, every group member has to depend on and trust each other to complete their part of the project. Things were going fine until Elena called up Juan three nights before the project was due to tell him that her computer died and she lost all her group work. No one else had saved her work on their computer, and she didn’t think she had time to do it all over again. She asked Juan and the rest of the group to help her.

**Discussion for Fishbowl:**

Is this Elena’s fault?

Does the group have an obligation to help her? Why or why not?

Under what circumstances would the group be willing/unwilling to help her?

**Scenario Two**

A drama class has been practicing its year-end play for four months, and things have been going well since auditions. However, one week before the opening night Roberto, the lead male, decides to quit because he doesn’t feel appreciated enough. No one has been rehearsing as Roberto’s understudy and without him they will have to delay opening the show for a month.

**Discussion for Fishbowl:**

What should the drama class do?

Is it worth negotiating with Roberto?

Does Roberto have an obligation to see his commitment through?

**Scenario Three**

Three business partners have been preparing for a presentation to a major client for a month. Without this client their company might have to shut down. The morning of the presentation, Maria calls Miguel to tell him that she is really sick and can’t come to the presentation. Unfortunately, she has all of the materials and is the expert on the financial aspects of the presentation while Miguel and Jose are in charge of the creative and idea sides. Miguel is afraid that he won’t be able to answer all of the client’s questions without Maria. Also, they can’t reschedule their appointment because the client is very busy.

**Discussion for Fishbowl:**

Does Maria have an obligation to come even though she is sick?

Does Miguel have a right to be mad at Maria even though being sick isn’t her fault?

What should the group do?