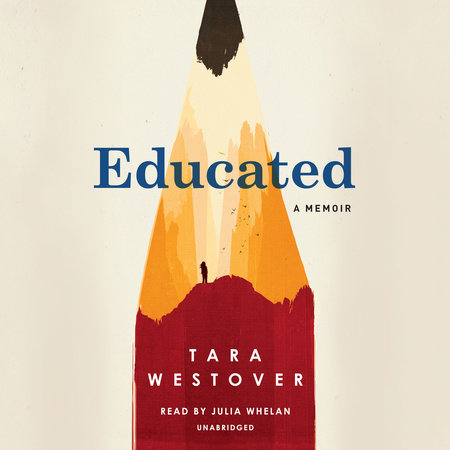
Leading a Book Discussion

Educated

In teams of 4 students, you will each in turn lead a discussion on the *Educated* pages you are required to be read (see calendar). The discussions will take place from WEEK 3 to WEEK 6. On your designated week, you will provide a list of 12 discussion questions to your teammates and discuss them as a group for 25 minutes.

When you prepare your questions, remember that you are not quizzing your classmates. You want a discussion. You can ask your teammates questions on their thoughts and reactions to certain events from the book. You could also compare your personal history to Tara’s and invite your teammates to comment.

Every week, as part of your homework, we will assign videos to watch that explain a theme that is developed in the book, like “survivalism” this week. The videos can help guide you as you read and prepare questions. You can also focus on any of the following themes: Family, growing up, education, religion, relationships, and independence and agency. You can ask some discussion questions directly about the videos as well, to a maximum of FOUR in total.

# What you need to do:

1. Watch the assigned video for the assigned pages (the same one you get for the journal).
2. Read the pages assigned for the week and take notes on what you find interesting.
3. Optional: Do some research on some aspects or themes of the book to inspire you.
4. Write 12 discussion questions. Up to four of these questions can be directly about the video.
5. Send me a copy of your document before our class, through the TEAMs assignment.

# What is a good discussion question?

* Discussion questions should be open-ended: “Who,” “what,” “why,” etc. **No “yes/no” questions**.
* Discussion questions are **NOT** reading comprehension questions. Do not ask students to remember what the book said. **REMIND** them what the author said and then ask them a question.
* Focus on personal experiences. Go beyond “Do you agree” and “What do you think?” Try to get people to discuss by taking the **IDEAS** from the memoir and getting people to connect that to their lives.
* A few “Do you agree” and “What do you think” questions are fine.

# Evaluation:

* This book discussion is worth 10% of your final grade.
* If your document is not ready on time (BEFORE class starts) or you are absent from the discussion that you are leading, then you will get 0.
* You will lose points if your discussion is shorter than 25 minutes, if you do not speak English, or if you do not participate in your other teammates’ discussions.
* You will not be evaluated on your speaking (grammar, pronunciation, etc.).
* You will be evaluated on the quality of your questions, and the discussion itself.

Leading a Discussion – Evaluation Grid

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unacceptable 1/5 | Needs work 2/5 | Acceptable 3/5 | Good 4/5 | Excellent 5/5 |
| Questions | NOTE: -10% per 2 missing or redundant questions, for the whole line: -1 for 10-11 questions, -2 for 8-9 questions, etc. | Many questions are not discussion questions. There are several meaningful discussion questions. | Questions are basic but fine. A few questions may be inappropriate, not discussion questions, etc. | Questions are distinct, somewhat developed, somewhat thoughtful. | Questions are developed and thoughtful. |

Note: You need to be present for other people’s discussions. For each discussion you miss, you lose -1/5.

**Comments:**

**Total: \_\_\_ /5**